STORY BY YUU KURAISHI
ART BY KEISHI NISHIKIDA

3

MY WIFE IS WAGATSUMA-SAN

#11
Something about Yama-Chan

YAMA-CHAN DIES OF AN ILLNESS.
TEN YEARS IN THE FUTURE...
I GUESS LIVING A HEALTHY LIFE IS ALL HE CAN DO...
HOW CAN WE PREVENT HIM FROM GETTING SICK?
HUFF
PUFF
HUFF
PUFF
NN!
NN!
BUT EVERY TIME I SEE YAMA-CHAN, HE'S...
グガー
THAT'S PRACTICALLY BEGGING TO GET SICK.
NOT GOOD! THAT'S NOT GOOD, YAMA-CHAN!!

LOOKS LIKE I'VE GOT NO CHOICE BUT TO FORCE HIM TO WORK OUT...
WHAT?
YOU'VE GOTTA EXERCISE, YAMA-CHAN!
KEEP IT UP! YOU'VE STILL GOT THREE MORE KILO-METERS!
BE SURE TO WATCH YOUR BREATH-ING!!
HUFF HUFF HUFF HUFF
WHEEZE WHEEZE
110! 111!
FASTER!! YOU'RE GONNA EAT LIGHTNING AND YOU'RE GONNA CRAP THUNDER!!
CLUCK CLUCK
SHHHHH... シュウウウ...
YOU DID IT, YAMA-CHAN!
ドオン
DOOOOOM ボロ

SHUT UP!
YOU LEFT YOUR BROCCOLI AGAIN!
OH, ONII-CHAN!
HOW?
THAT COULD WORK!!!!
I'LL START TOMORROW!
KLINK
THIS BROCCOLI IS A TORTURE DEVICE DESIGNED BY COUNT BROCCOLI. (LIES)
WE'VE BEEN OVER THIS.
SIGH
IF YOU'RE TOO PICKY ABOUT YOUR FOOD, YOU'LL THROW OFF YOUR NUTRITIONAL BALANCE.
THEY DO SAY AN APPLE A DAY KEEPS THE DOCTOR AWAY...
...NUTRITIONAL BALANCE...?
HMM? WAIT A SECOND...
*ZAISHOU PARK
WHAT IS WHAT?
THIS IS IT!!

PSHH
TAKADA
GASP
NN!
NN!
NN!
OH? AREN'T YOU...
...YOU'RE DRINKING AGAIN...
SO... WHAT DOES OSHIMA-KUN WANT WITH ME?
WOULD YOU STOP SLIGHTLY FLUBBING IT EVERY TIME?!!
I...I'M AOSHIMA FROM THE DX CORPS!!
AOKI-KUN FROM THE G-SEPPUKU CORPS?

DON'T YOU WORRY 'BOUT ME. I MAY NOT LOOK IT, BUT I'M PRETTY SMART, TOO.
LEARNED FROM HIS SISTER
IF ALL YOU DO IS DRINK BEER, YOU'RE GONNA THROW OFF YOUR NUTRITIONAL BALANCE!!
A... ARE YOU EATING PROPERLY?!!!
OH? WHAT'S GOTTEN INTO YOU, SON?
...HUH?
LEMMY?
I STUDIED NUTRITION UNDER THE GREAT DR. LEMMY KILMISTER OF ENGLAND'S MOTORHEAD UNIVERSITY.
BY THE WAY...
YOU'VE GOTTA EAT SOME VEGE-TABLES TOO!!
DON'T JUST EAT CHI-KUWA ALL THE TIME!!
GRR!
LEMMY KILMISTER IS THE BASSIST/ VOCALIST FOR THE BAND MOTORHEAD FOR MORE DETAILS, SEE "LEMMY THE MOVIE"
SO I EAT EVERYONE'S FAVORITE CORNERSTONE OF NUTRITION CHIKUWA* EVERY DAY AS PART OF A BALANCED DIET.
*CHEAP, TUBE-SHAPED SNACK FOOD MADE FROM GROUND FISH
HUH?
THEY MAKE BOOZE WITH VEGGIES IN IT?
FROM THIS.
DON'T WORRY. I GET PLENTY OF VEGGIES.

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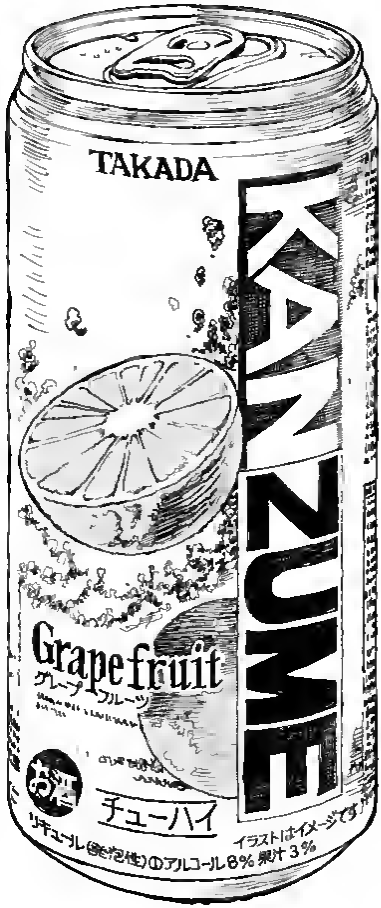


TAKADA CANNED CHU-HI* GRAPE-FRUIT FLAVOR

*ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE GENERALLY MADE WITH SHOCHU AND CARBONATED WATER, FLAVORED WITH FRUIT JUICE

TAKADA CANNED CHU-HI GRAPEFRUIT FLAVOR

A POPULAR PRODUCT SINCE IT HIT THE SHELVES IN 1989. MADE WITH COPIOUS AMOUNTS OF SINGLY-DISTILLED SHOCHU AND FRUIT JUICE FROM CONCENTRATE, THE EASE WITH WHICH IT GOES DOWN AND THE 8% ALCOHOL PUNCH OF FLAVOR ARE ITS DEFINING FEATURES.

BECAUSE OF ITS HIGHLY-PRAISED REASONABLE PRICE AND THE SPEED WITH WHICH IT GETS YOU DRUNK, IT IS A MUST-HAVE ITEM AT BLUE-COLLAR STREET PARTIES.

*DON'T DRINK UNLESS YOU'RE OVER 21!

GRAPE-FRUIT IS NOT A VEGE-TABLE!!
WHAT? WELL, THEY ALL COME FROM A FIELD.
WHAT GOOD IS 3% FRUIT JUICE GOING TO DO YOU?!
YEESH...
I KNEW IT. HE'S AS PICKY ABOUT HIS FOOD AS A LITTLE KID...
TOTALLY PUTTING HIM-SELF ON A PED-ESTAL
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
HUH?
WHAT THE?
HEY! WHAT'S THIS FOR?
I'LL BE BACK.
STOMP
STOMP

THE NEXT DAY
IF YOU DON'T HAVE THE MONEY, DON'T FORCE YERSELF!
SORRY... IT'S JUST BEAN SPROUTS TODAY...
THE NEXT DAY
IN FACT, JUST GIVE ME THE MONEY!
C'MON! TELL ME WHAT THIS'S ABOUT!
I'LL BE BACK !!!!
T.S. ACTIVE
WHUMP
OH!
KYAAP?
I'M SURE HE'S FIT AS A FIDDLE NOW!
TEP
TEP
TEP
I'VE STRESSED TO HIM THE IMPORTANCE OF A GOOD DIET!
LET'S FIND FUTURE YAMA-CHAN AND SEE THE RESULTS!
TEP TEP TEP

YAMA-CHAN...
HUFF...
HUFF...
...
ALL RIGHT...
CRAP... GUESS THAT STUFF WAS TOO WEAK...
...BUT...
SHHH. JUST COME WITH ME.
YAMA-CHAN, LET'S GET YOU TO A HOSPITAL.
SINCE IT'S COME TO THIS...
HUH?
PRE-SENT DAY
HUH?
YAMA-CHAN! HOW ABOUT SOME SPORTS? LET'S GET SOME EXERCISE AND WORK UP A SWEAT!
OGUSHI
HUH?!
STRESS IS THE ENEMY OF GOOD HEALTH! LET'S GO SING OUR HEARTS OUT AT KARAOKE!!
I KNOW THAT CAN'T BE GOOD FOR HIM.
YEAH.
ALL HE DOES IS DRINK.
YOU WANT US TO FEED YAMA-CHAN?

YOU MEAN LIKE A SOUP KITCHEN?
BUT FEEDING YAMA-CHAN DOES HAVE MEANING AS A KIND OF COMMUNITY SERVICE...
HUH? THAT SOUNDS LIKE A LOTTA WORK, MAN...
HERE IT IS...THE ESSENCE OF ITOU...
HE'S ALWAYS THE WORST...
SOUP KITCHEN?!!!
THAT SOUNDS NICE
THE THEME FROM "SEIBU KEISATSU*"
*TV POLICE DRAMA FROM THE '80S
CHATTER
*ZAISHOU PARK
ONLY ONE BOWL OF TONJIRU* PER PERSON!
ALL RIGHT, LINE UP! LINE UP!
PARARI
PARAPARI
*A PORK, VEGETABLE, AND MISO SOUP

HEY! MR. CHIEF!
HEY, SON... THERE'S NO MEAT IN THIS.
HUH? WHAT A PAIN IN THE BUTT.
OH, THAT WON'T WORK. YOU'VE GOTTA CALL HIM "CHIEF."
WHUMP
HUH?! ALL OF YOU?!
WHADDA YA WANT?!
ELECTRIC MEDUSA
MATRIX 2
I GUESS TODAY, THE "D" IN "DX CORPS" STANDS FOR "DAIMON"" INSTEAD OF "DOBASHI."
IF YOU'RE GONNA RUN A SOUP KITCHEN, IT'S GOTTA BE IN THESE CLOTHES, HUH?
*CHARACTER AND LEADER OF A GROUP IN "SEIBU KEISATSU"
I'M SURPRISED AS WELL.
MAN...I CAN'T BELIEVE EVERY ONE OF US IS A FAN OF THE ISHIHARA CORPS*.
KOMATSU
WHERE ARE TACHI AND KANDA*?!
ITOU
*TALENT AGENCY WHICH PRODUCED "SEIBU KEISATSU"
*MEMBERS OF THE CAST
YESSIR!
FLINCH
YAMA-CHAN.

...
FUJIKAWA
AOSHIMA
EAT UP...
WHO DO YOU THINK WE OPENED THIS SOUP KITCHEN FOR IN THE FIRST PLACE?!!
OH, I'LL EAT IT.
YAMA-CHAN DOESN'T LIKE ONIONS, SO SOME-ONE ELSE CAN HAVE THIS.
I WONDER IF HE MEANS IT...
YAMA-CHAN'LL START EATIN' RIGHT AND STOP BEIN' PICKY.
THANKS, BOYS.
OKAY, I GET IT! I GET IT!
IT'S PRETTY HARD TO BELIEVE...

ピコ
ピコ
SHHHH
ハァー

ピコ
ピコ
ピコ
ピコ
SHHHH
ハァー
SHHHH
ハァー

HMMMMMM
NEW!
HMMMMMM
PRESENT DAY
THIS ONE'S EMPTY TOO, HUH?
カチャ
RATTLE
カチャ
HMM?
YEESH, THESE ARE HARD TIMES.
SKREEK
SKREEK
ROYAL WHISKY

TODAY, I'LL SHOW YOU THE SECRET TO PICKIN' DIRTY BOOKS.
ALL RIGHTY, SHALL I ACCOMPANY YOU?
ON YER WAY TO BUY DIRTY BOOKS AGAIN?
OH? WHAT'S UP, YOUNG FELLA?
DRINK-ING?
WON'T YOU GIVE UP...
SAY, YAMA-CHAN...
ANOTHER LECTURE, EH?
OH, GREAT.
AT THIS RATE...
YAMA-CHAN DON'T LIKE BEIN' TOLD WHAT TO DO.
WHO ARE YOU, NISHIO FROM X-GUN*?
EVERY TIME YOU SEE ME, YOU START WITH THE LECTURES.
*A COMEDY DUO, NISHIO OFTEN PLAYS A LECTURE-LOVING CHARACTER

GULP
AND YOU JUST KNOW THIS, DO YOU?
YOU'RE GOING TO DIE IN 10 YEARS.
AT THIS RATE...
I KNOW.
...YEAH.
...WOW.
...
WELL, THAT'S SOME-THIN' ELSE.
YOU SHOULD BE A FORTUNE-TELLER, SON.
YOU'LL MAKE A KILLIN'.
WHO CARES IF A PIECE OF TRASH LIKE ME BITES IT?
BUT EVERY-BODY'S GOTTA GO SOME-TIME.
YOINK

チッ…
TSK!
?!
GRAB
ガシッ
BAM
IT'D BE A PROB-LEM FOR ME!!
IF YOU DIE...
HE'S GOT A POINT.
SHOCK
YOU KNOW...
-GASP-
HUH ?!!
BA-DUMP
どぎーん
BLUSH
UH...
OH...
...
WHY WOULD IT BE A PROBLEM FOR YOU IF I DIE?

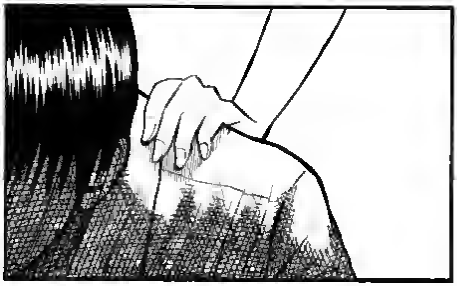
"FRIENDS"?!
"BECAUSE WE'RE..."
YOU BARELY KNOW ME, SO WHY ARE YOU TRYING TO ENSNARE ME WITH THAT LABEL?!
I'LL TELL YOU RIGHT NOW, WE'RE NOT FRIENDS!!
WE'RE TOTAL STRANGERS!!
HMPH! WELL, TOO BAD!! YOU'RE TOO LATE!!
BECAUSE WE'RE FRIENDS...
PUH... PROBABLY...
I GUESS?!!!
YEAH, THAT'S GOTTA BE IT!
IT'S WHAT?! YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW MY FULL NAME!!
WHAT THE HECK IS THAT DEATH NOTE-SOUNDING THING?
YOUR NAME IS ALREADY WRITTEN IN THE "FRIEND NOTE" OF MY HEART!!
ERASE IT! THROW IT OUT THIS INSTANT!!
OHHH! MY FRIEND'S BABBLING ABOUT SOMETHING!
NOW, BOSOM BUDDY OF MINE, STOP DRINKING AND GET A JOB!
SHUT UP! I'M NEVER GIVIN' UP BOOZE!!
AND STOP SMOKING, TOO!
AND I'VE BEEN MEANING TO TELL YOU BUT YOU LOOK AWFUL IN THAT HAT!

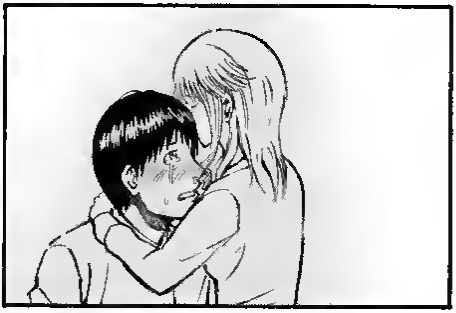
BECAUSE WE'RE FRIENDS, I GUESS ?!!!
PROB-ABLY...
BLUSH
MAN... THIS IS SO EMBARRAS-SING...
I'VE NEVER EVEN CONFESSED TO A GIRL BEFORE!!
AHHH! IT FEELS LIKE... YOU KNOW... I JUST ONE-SIDEDLY CONFESSED MY FEELINGS TO HIM!!
WHAT IF HE'S HIDING IT BECAUSE HE'S GOT A FUNNY NAME? PFFT THAT'S SO STUPID!
...HUH, COME TO THINK OF IT, WHAT IS YAMA-CHAN'S REAL NAME?
WELL, WHATEVER... GUESS I'LL GO CHECK UP ON YAMA-CHAN TOMORROW. ...BECAUSE THERE'S NO HELPING THAT GUY...
I KIND OF ONE-SIDEDLY SIGNED A FRIENDSHIP TREATY WITH HIM, BUT WAS THAT REALLY FOR THE BEST? IN FACT, WHAT ARE FRIENDS? WHAT IS A FRIEND?! I'M NOT EVEN SURE ANYMORE!!

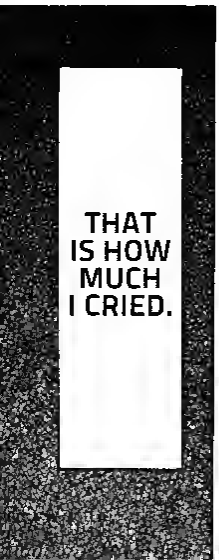
HUH?
...WAGA-
TSUMA-
SAN?
DID I
TIME
SLIP?
...?

YOU'VE GOTTA BE KID-DING...
THINGS JUST KEEP GETTING WORSE...
WHY?
DID I DO SOMETHING I SHOULDN'T HAVE?
DID THIS HAPPEN BECAUSE I TRIED TO SAVE HIM?
WHY ?!!!

WERE GOING TO RUN DRY...
I THOUGHT MY TEAR DUCTS...






THAT IS HOW MUCH I CRIED.

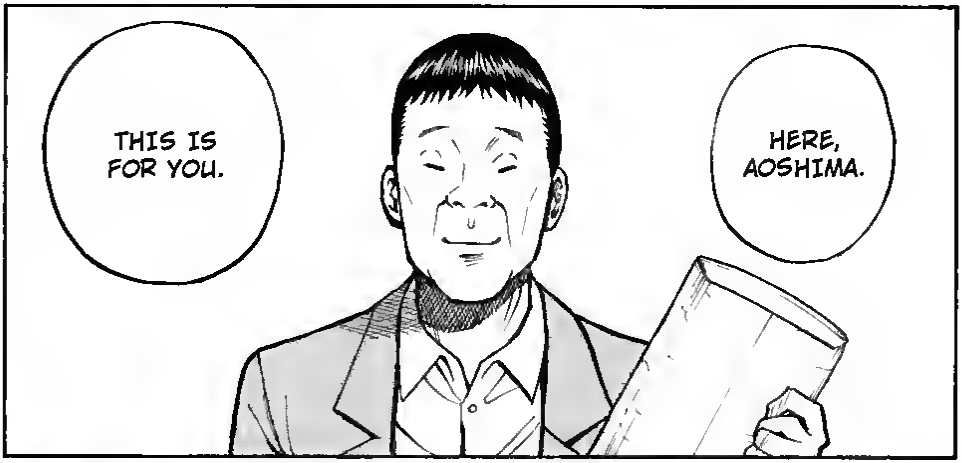
I DIDN'T EVEN NOTICE I EMBRACED WAGATSUMA-SAN FOR THE FIRST TIME...

IN THE END, YAMA-CHAN DIES IN TEN YEARS.
THERE'S NO POINT IN BEING ABLE TO TIME SLIP...I CAN'T CHANGE THE FUTURE.
NOTHING I DO CHANGES THAT.
I'M NOT GOOD FOR ANYTHING. I'M USELESS...
YOU HAVE ONE NEW MESSAGE.

THE
LRA

*ZAISHOU PARK

Komatsu
No Subject
Yama-chan says he needs to talk to you. Can you come now?


THIS IS FOR YOU.
HERE, AOSHIMA.

WELL, THE TRUTH IS...
WAHAHAHA
WHAT ARE YOU DRESSED UP FOR? YOU THINK THIS IS SHICHI-GO-SAN* OR SOMETHING?
WHOA! YOU LOOK LIKE A PRODUCTIVE MEMBER OF SOCIETY!
HEY!
WHOA!
WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU, YAMA-CHAN?!
YOU SURE CLEANED UP NICE!
*A TRADITIONAL FESTIVAL DAY FOR GIRLS OF THE AGES 3 AND 7 AND BOYS OF THE AGES 3 AND 5

MOVING BACK TO MY HOME-TOWN...
I'M...
なんでー?
WHY?
WELL...
NO, STUPID! IT'S A U-TURN!
HUH? YOU'RE MAKING A HOME-COMING?
WHY ?!!!
WHY, YAMA-CHAN ?!!!
HUH?
WHO KEEPS TELLING ME, "EAT YOUR VEGETABLES!" AND "STOP DRINKING!" AND "GET A JOB!"
I'VE GOT THIS ANNOYING FRIEND...
!!

AND I FIGURED, WHILE I'M AT IT, I MAY AS WELL GO HOME AND TRY TO TURN OVER A NEW LEAF.
I CAN'T JUST IGNORE IT.
AND THIS IS ADVICE FROM MY FRIEND.

DON'T GO, YAMA-CHAN!
WE'LL MISS YOU, SIR.
NO WAY !!!!

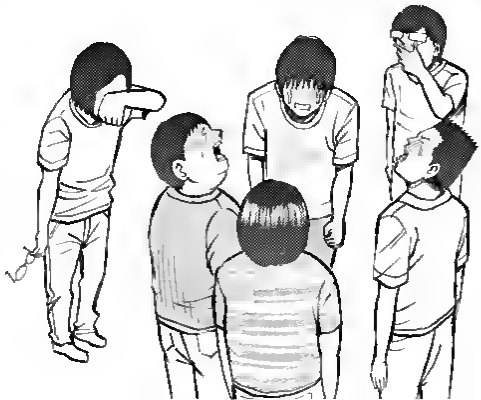
I'M NOT SURE HOW IT'LL WORK OUT...
BUT I HAVEN'T BEEN BACK IN DECADES, SO...

THERE'S STUFF IN LIFE THAT'LL MAKE YOU MAD, AND IT CAN BE TOUGH...
BUT YOU SHOULD NEVER SULK OR RESENT THE WORLD.

THAT'S ALL YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT TO THE BITTER END, HUH?
わぁぁん
WAHH!!
IF YOU LEAVE, HOW AM I GONNA GET MY PORN?!

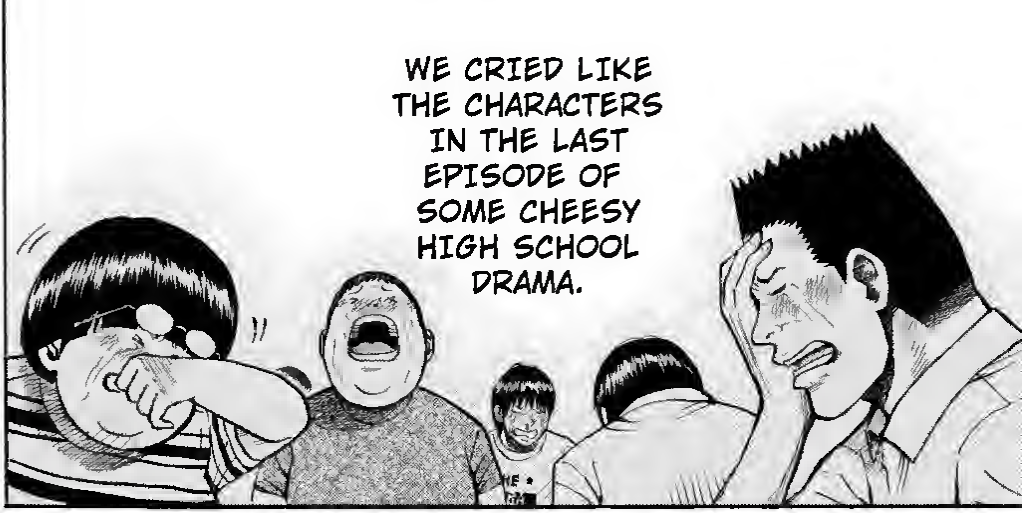
HERE'S SOME ADVICE, BOYS:

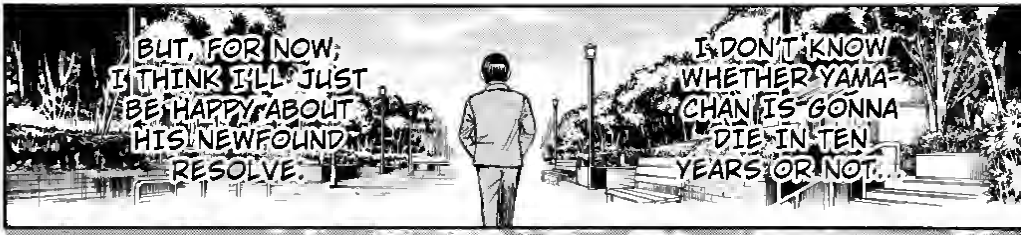
WE DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT...
WHAT THE FUTURE HAS IN STORE FOR US, BUT...
BACK IN THE DAY, YAMA-CHAN GOT FED UP WITH THE WAY HIS LIFE WAS GOIN'...
AND STARTED LIVIN' KIND OF A ROUND-ABOUT LIFE.
!!
I DO THINK WE CAN CHANGE THE "PRESENT."
ALL RIGHT.
...
MESSENGER ON SUNDAY

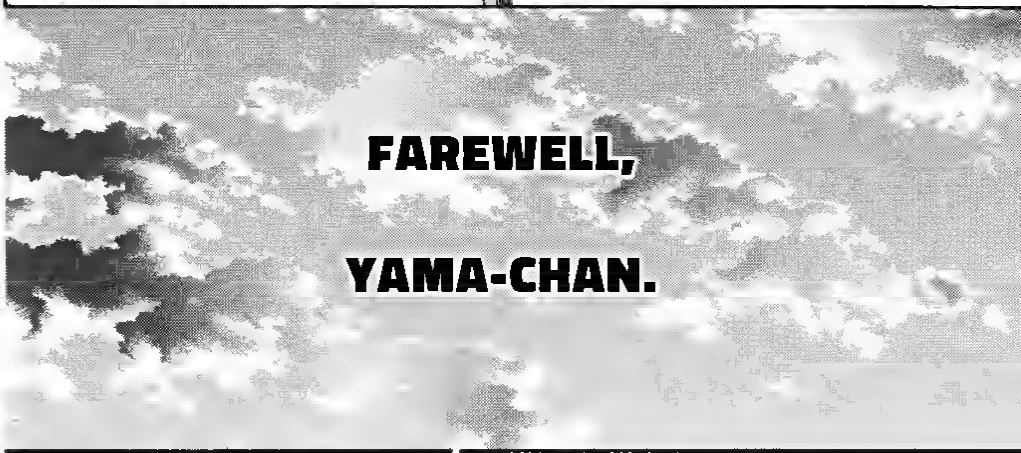


AFTER THAT, ALL OF US...

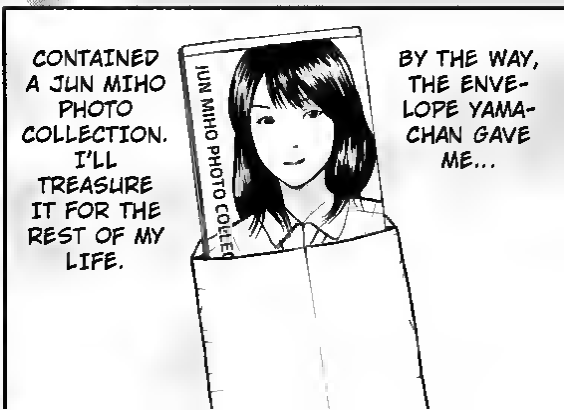
CRIED AT THE TOP OF OUR LUNGS.


WE CRIED LIKE THE CHARACTERS IN THE LAST EPISODE OF SOME CHEESY HIGH SCHOOL DRAMA.


BUT, FOR NOW, I THINK I'LL JUST BE HAPPY ABOUT HIS NEWFOUND RESOLVE.
I DON'T KNOW WHETHER YAMA-CHAN IS GONNA DIE IN TEN YEARS OR NOT...


FAREWELL,
YAMA-CHAN.

I STILL DON'T SEE WHAT'S SO GREAT ABOUT JUN MIHO...
ALTHOUGH...

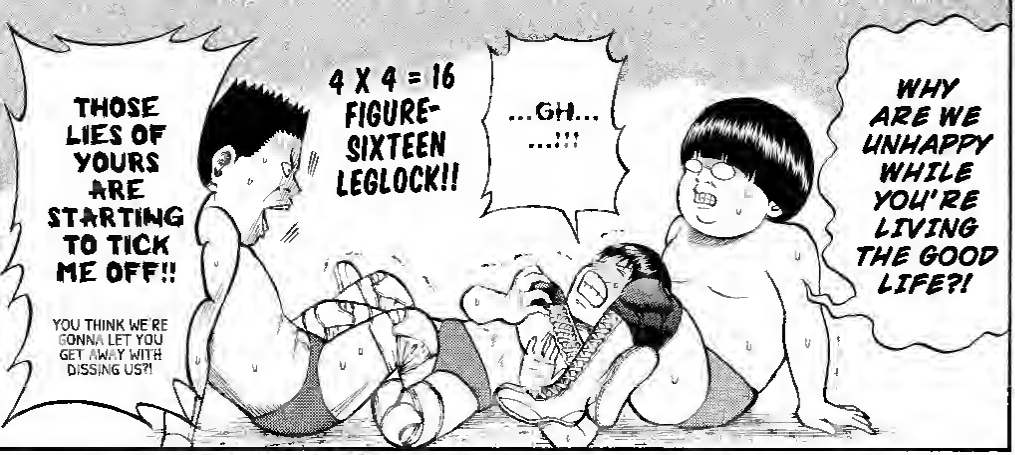

CONTAINED A JUN MIHO PHOTO COLLECTION. I'LL TREASURE IT FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE.
JUN MIHO PHOTO COLLECTION
BY THE WAY, THE ENVELOPE YAMA-CHAN GAVE ME...

TEN YEARS IN THE FUTURE
CHIRP チュン
CHIRP チュン
AO-SHIMA-KUN.
RISE AND SHINE...
SHAK
WAGA-TSUMA-SAN?!
JEEZ! THERE YOU GO CALLING ME THAT AGAIN.
IT'S MORN-ING.
HMM?
OH...
HONEY?
I'M AI AOSHIMA NOW, RIGHT?

PART 1
Career Opportunities

HEH HEH HEH HEH HEH...
PRESENT DAY
WHAT IS IT, AOSHI-MA?
HEH HEH.
WELL, I **TIME SLIPPED** AGAIN LAST NIGHT...
AGE: **17**
PROTAGONIST: **HITOSHI AOSHIMA**
YOU REALLY SHOULD TRY IT YOURSELVES SOMETIME.
YOU ***BOYS*** JUST DON'T KNOW HOW GREAT IT IS BEING MARRIED.

ARE YOU SERIOUSLY SAYING THIS?
THAT YOU NOT ONLY TIME SLIPPED, BUT THAT YOU'RE MARRIED TOO?
FRIEND A:
MASAO KOMATSU
HERE IT COMES. AOSHI-MA'S TALKING CRAZY AGAIN.
FRIEND B:
SHIROU ITOU
IT'S ALL TRUE!
AI WAGA-TSUMA-SAN IS MY FUTURE BRIDE!
OH, REALLY? SO THE FIRST OR SECOND HOTTEST GIRL IN ZAISHOU HIGH BECOMES YOUR BRIDE?
I KNOW! ISN'T THAT AWE-SOME?
BY THE WAY, WHAT'S MY FUTURE LIKE?
HMM?
YOU'RE BALD.
THEN WHAT ABOUT ME?
LOCKED UP AS A SEX OFFENDER.


WHY ARE WE UNHAPPY WHILE YOU'RE LIVING THE GOOD LIFE?!
...GH... ...!!!
4 X 4 = 16 FIGURE-SIXTEEN LEGLOCK!!
THOSE LIES OF YOURS ARE STARTING TO TICK ME OFF!!
YOU THINK WE'RE GONNA LET YOU GET AWAY WITH DISSING US?!

WELL, IT GENERALLY HAPPENS WHEN I'M IN BED OR IN A RELAXED STATE, SO...
HUUUH?!
AND WE'RE TELLING YOU, YOU'RE ONLY DREAM-ING!!

HUH?
WELL THEN, WHY DON'T YOU SHOW US ONE OF THESE SO-CALLED TIME SLIPS?

HMM.
COME ON, DO IT!!
YEAH, IF IT'S TRUE, THEN YOU CAN DO IT NOW, RIGHT?

THEN I'LL JUST HAVE TO TRY THAT AGAIN!
IF THEY DON'T BELIEVE ME...
...
YOU TURD!
STOP MIXING UP DREAMS AND REALITY, YOU FRIGGIN' MORON!!

GOOOOOOOOOOO!!
I CAN FEEL IT! THIS TIME I'LL REALLY...
TEP
TEP
TEP
TEP
THIS ISN'T THE FIRST TIME EITHER..
VERY HOSODA*-ESQUE
NO! YOU DIDN'T SEE THAT!!
DID YOU JUST... TRY TO CROSS THE SPACE-TIME CONTIN-UUM?
TAP
*MAMORU HOSODA, DIRECTED "THE GIRL WHO LEAPT THROUGH TIME"
ROLL
ROLL
ROLL
IN THAT CASE, HOW ABOUT THIS?!
WHAPP

AH!
IT'S ALL RIGHT! YOU'RE THE REAL THING!
HEART HURT... BODY HURT... OW...
OKAY!! WE GET IT! YOU'VE DONE ENOUGH!
...I DON'T FEEL SO GOOD ..
WE'RE SORRY !!!!
HEY! EAT YOUR LUNCH IN THE CLASS-ROOM!!

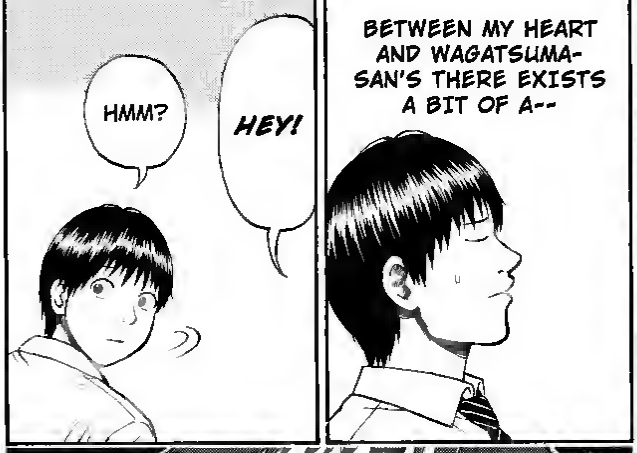
MY WIFE IS WAGATSUMA-SAN

AI WAGA-TSUMA!!
HEY, UH...
CAN I HEAR YOUR RESPONSE TO WHAT I ASKED THE OTHER DAY?
WHA ?!!!
WE HAVE STUMBLED UPON A YOUNG MAN WHO ASKED A GIRL OUT WAITING FOR A REPLY!
THIS IS IT!!
YES, IT AP-PEARS SO!
ITOU-SAN, IS THIS WHAT I THINK IT IS?!

SANO-KUN FROM YEAR 2, CLASS C, THE BASE-BALL TEAM'S ACE.
NOW, WHO'S THE CHAL-LENGER THIS TIME?
YOU IOIOT!! THEY'RE JUST GETTING TO THE GOOD PART!! OON'T YOU SPOIL IT FOR US!!
WAGA-TSUMA-SA--NGH?!
I SEE! I WISH HE'O OROP DEAD RIGHT NOW!
HIS EXCELLENT RECORO IN OFFICIAL GAMES ANO SWEET-LOOKING FACE HAVE EARNEO HIM THE NICK-NAME "THE OARVISH* OF ZAISHOU HIGH." PLUS, HE RECEIVED 26 VALENTINE'S CHOCO-LATES THIS YEAR ALONE. HE'S A LIFE-HAVER AMONG LIFE-HAVERS!
*AFTER YH DARVISH, STAR BASEBALL PLAYER
YES, I HEARD THAT JUST THIS MORN-ING, SEVERAL STUDENTS FELL VICTIM TO MR. SUGA-WARA FROM STUDENT GUIDANCE'S BAMBOO SWORD.
FOR OTHER SCHOOLS EITHER
NO MERCY
IS THAT TRUE?
NOT ONLY OOES SHE HAVE GOOO LOOKS, BUT ALSO GOOO GRAOES ANO ATHLETIC ABILITY. NOT TO MENTION, THERE ISN'T AN OUNCE OF MEANESS IN HER PERSON-ALITY. SHE VIES FOR THE SPOT OF 1ST OR 2NO MOST POPULAR GIRL IN SCHOOL.
BUT HIS OPPONENT IS **AI WAGA-TSUMA.**
MPH! MPH!
NOW, WILL HIS CON-FESSION SUCCEED, OR WILL HE CRASH AND BURN?!
I HAVE EVEN HEARO THAT STUOENTS FROM OTHER SCHOOLS COME HERE JUST FOR A GLANCE AT HER.

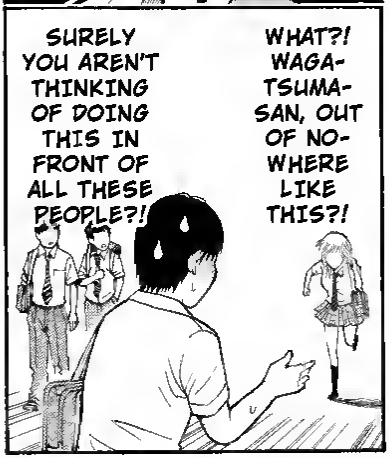
UM...
RE-JECT!!
RE-JECT!!
リア充粉砕!!
**"DEATH TO THE LIFE-HAVER"
UH...
SANO-KUN...
THUMP
THUMP
...
THUMP
THUMP
SAY "NO!" SAY "NO!" WA-GA-TSU-MA!!
SAY "NO!" SAY "NO!" WA-GA-TSU-MA!!
DX
リア充粉砕!!
I'M SORRY.
DX
**"SUCK ON THAT!"

EXCHANGING UNIFORMS
DX
I MEAN, MY GRADES START TO SLIP IF I SKIP EVEN ONE DAY OF STUDY-ING...
I'M REALLY SORRY.
NO... THAT'S OKAY.
BY THE BY, AO-SHIMA-KUN...
HOW *ARE* YOU PLAN-NING TO WOO WAGA-TSUMA-SAN OVER THERE?
YES, LET'S HEAR YOUR IDEAS.
I...I DON'T KNOW...

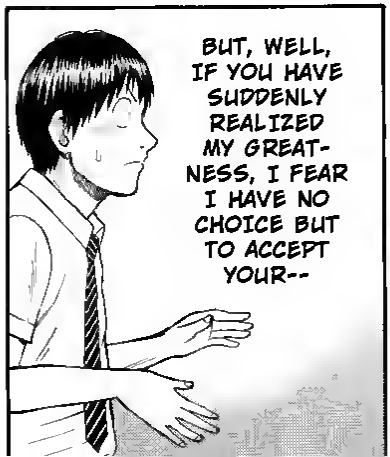

HMM?
HEY!

BETWEEN MY HEART AND WAGATSUMA-SAN'S THERE EXISTS A BIT OF A--

THEY DO HAVE A POINT...


SURELY YOU AREN'T THINKING OF DOING THIS IN FRONT OF ALL THESE PEOPLE?!
WHAT?! WAGA-TSUMA-SAN, OUT OF NO-WHERE LIKE THIS?!

HEEEY!!
TEP
TEP
TEP
TEP


BUT, WELL, IF YOU HAVE SUDDENLY REALIZED MY GREAT-NESS, I FEAR I HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO ACCEPT YOUR--

JEEZ! YOU'RE TEN MINUTES LATE!
AHHH! SORRY I TOOK SO LONG!
L...LOVE...

A PRETTY BIG GULF.
NO...
THERE EXISTS A BIT OF A...

IS, HONEST-LY, PRETTY UNTHINK-ABLE...
WAGA-TSUMA-SAN MARRYING ME, THE LOSER OF LOSERS...

HMM...

IN FACT...

ALMOST LIKE...
SOMETHING OUT OF A DREAM...

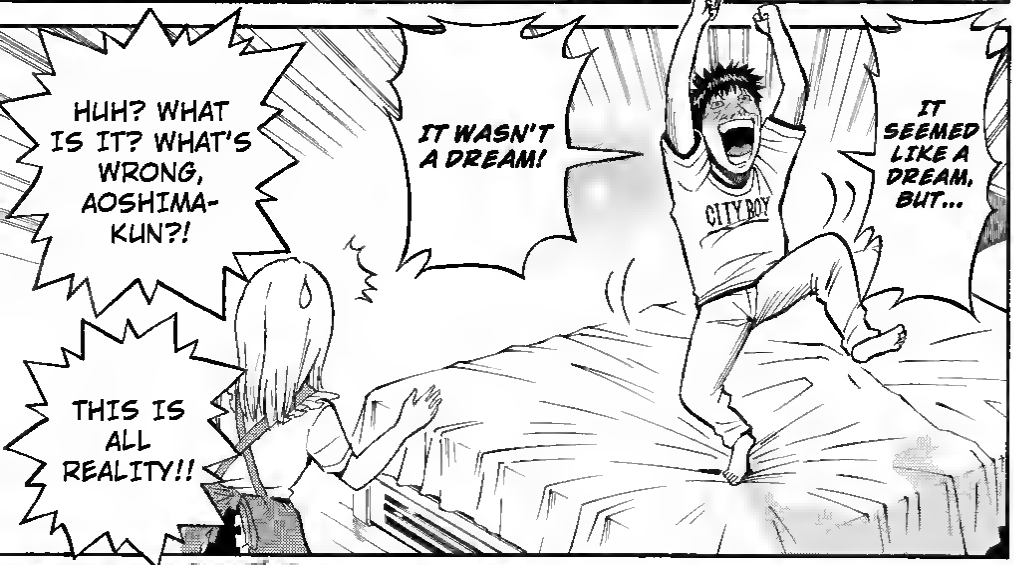
I'M GETTING LESS SURE BY THE DAY!!
I KNEW IT!! SO TIME SLIPS ARE DREAMS AFTER ALL?!
WHICH MEANS...
WHAT?!
"I TIME SLIPPED AND FOUND OUT I MARRY THE GIRL OF MY DREAMS!"
THEY'REALLY ARE JUST A LITTLE TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE...
FWIP
ON TOP OF THAT !!!!
AND ON TOP OF THAT...
WAH!!
わぁ
AM I SOME NUT WHOSE LOVE FOR WAGATSUMA-SAN IS SO GREAT, HE'S LOST THE ABILITIY TO DISTINGUISH DREAMS FROM REALITY?!
QUIVER QUIVER
EEK!!
I'M GOING AROUND BRAGGING ABOUT IT TO MY FRIENDS!!
WHUMP

AM I GOING TO END UP BEING CARTED OFF BY THOSE NICE MEN IN THE WHITE COATS?
HAVE I... GONE OFF THE DEEP END?
TO DENY REALITY!
BRACE YOUR-SELF!!
I DON'T WANNA BE COMMIT-TED!!
OH GOD...
HEY.
PINCH
COME ON! WAKE UP! ♡
HNGH!
WAKE UP AL-READY.
HEY!
AOSHI-MA-KUN!
HMM?
RISE AND SHINE...

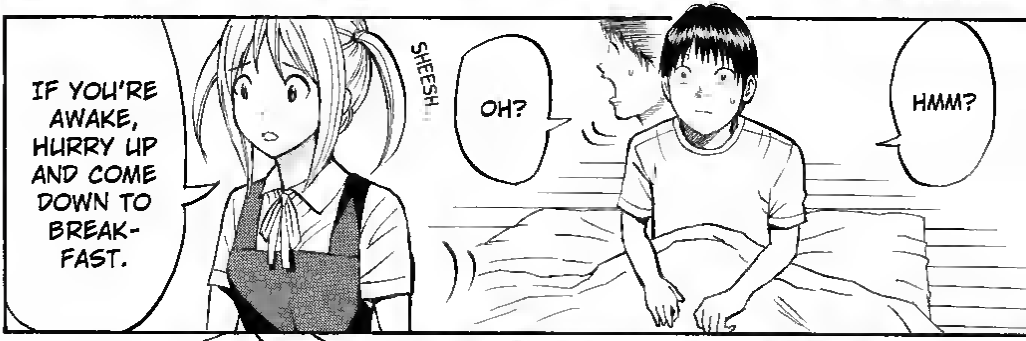
I DON'T KNOW WHAT I'M GOING TO DO WITH YOU.
HOW LONG ARE YOU GOING TO STAY IN BED?
TIME SLIP ACTIVE

YOUR SOUP'S GOING TO GET COLD.
W...
JEEZ!
THIS IS WHAT YOU GET WHEN YOU STAY UP ALL NIGHT ALL THE TIME!
WAGA-TSUMA-SAN!!
YOU LIKE YOUR SUNNY-SIDE UP EGGS WITH RUNNY YOLKS, DON'T YOU?
W...
W-
W-

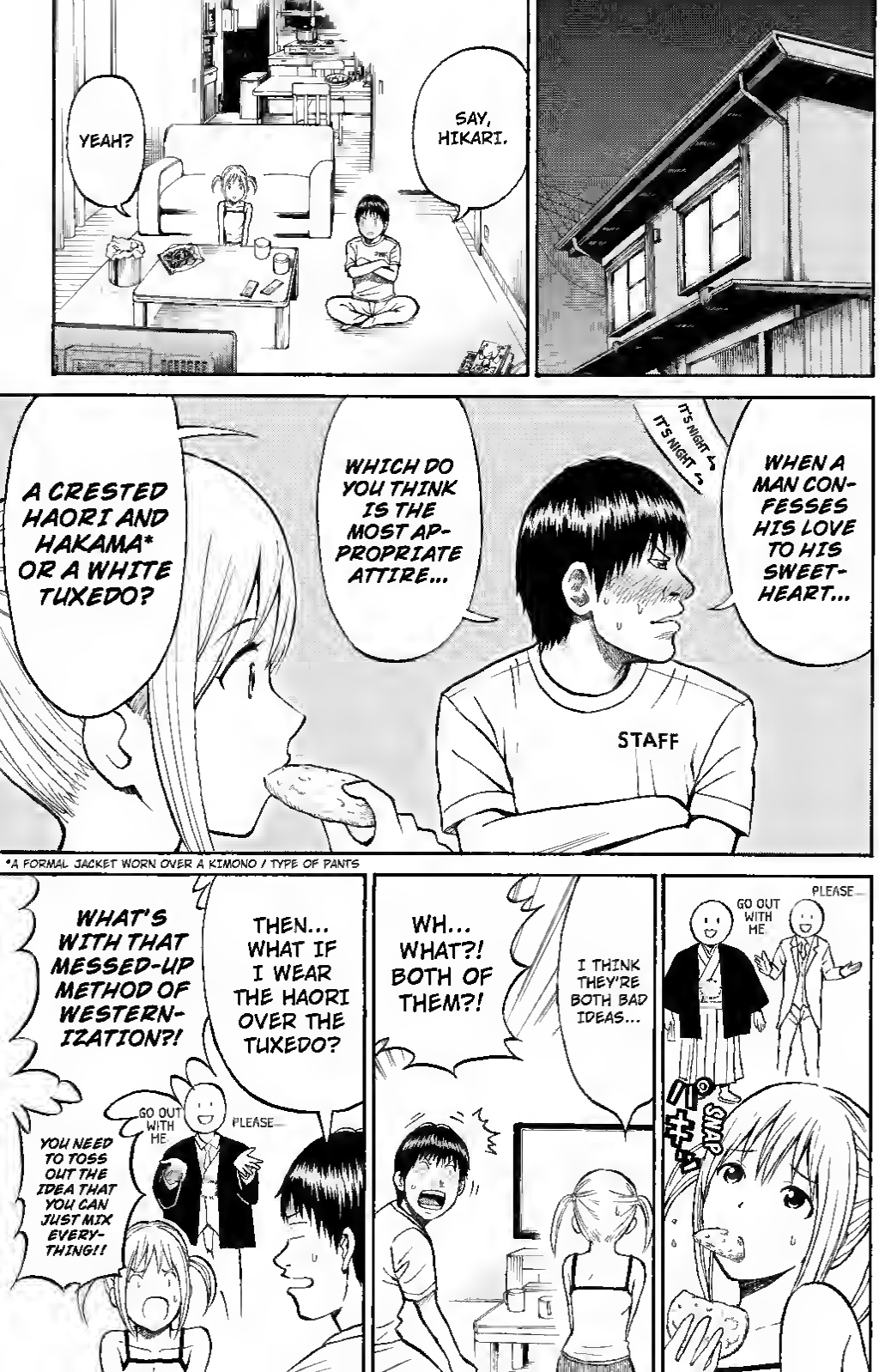
WOO-HOO!!
HOP
CITY BOY
びくっ
FLINCH
...HUH?
HEY! HEY! RIGHT NOW!
THIS ISN'T A DREAM, IS IT?!
CITY BOY
NO...
...? HUH?
YOU'RE AWAKE... RIGHT NOW... OKAY?

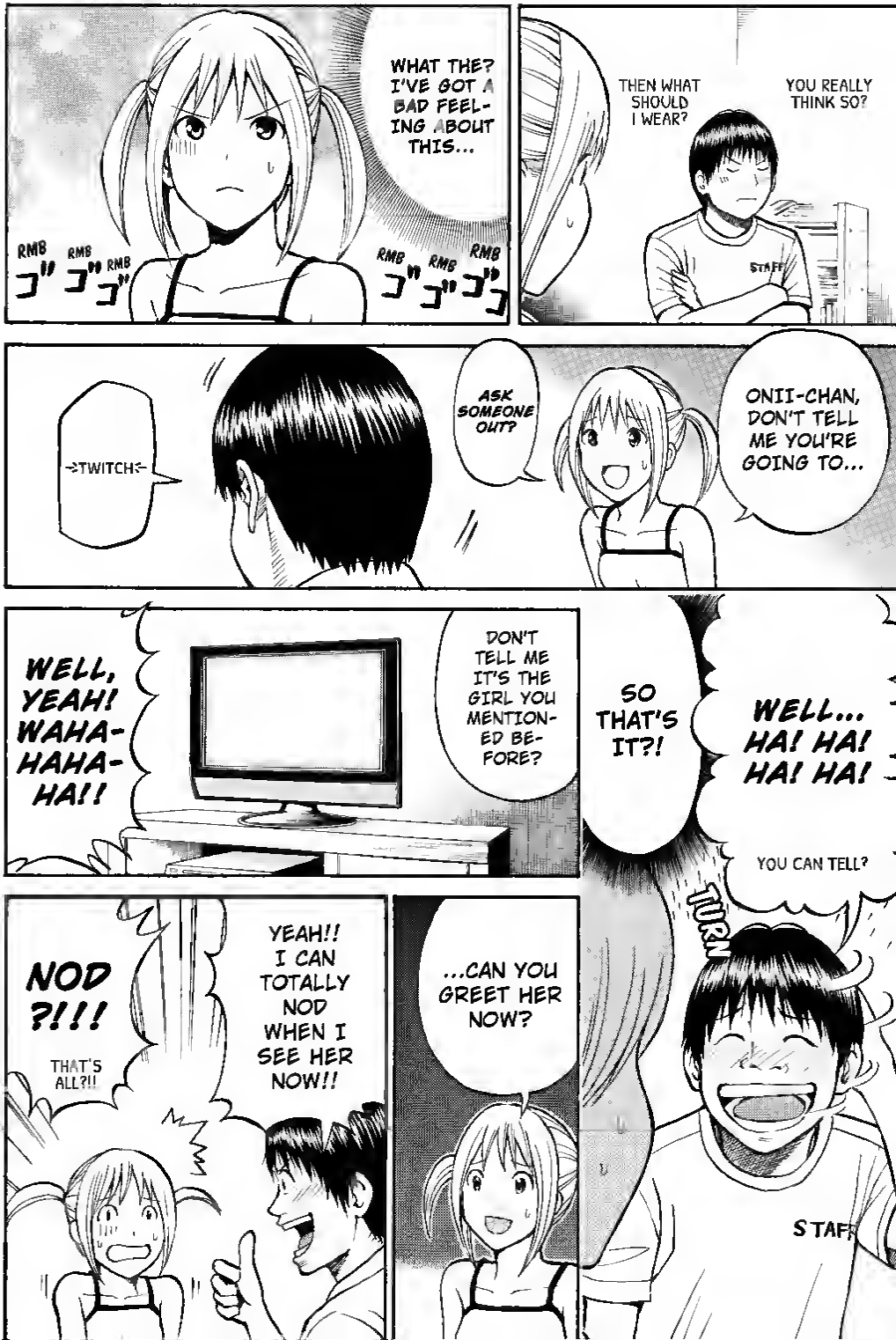


*A SCENE FROM "MY NEIGHBOR TOTORO"



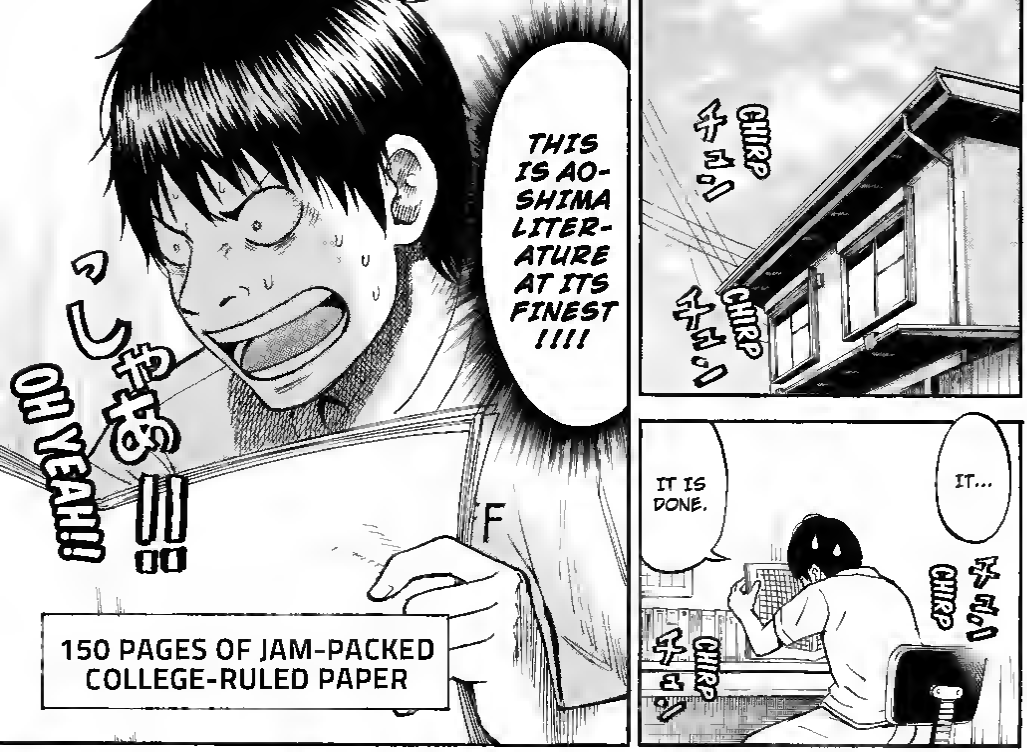
TIME SLIPS ARE REAL!!

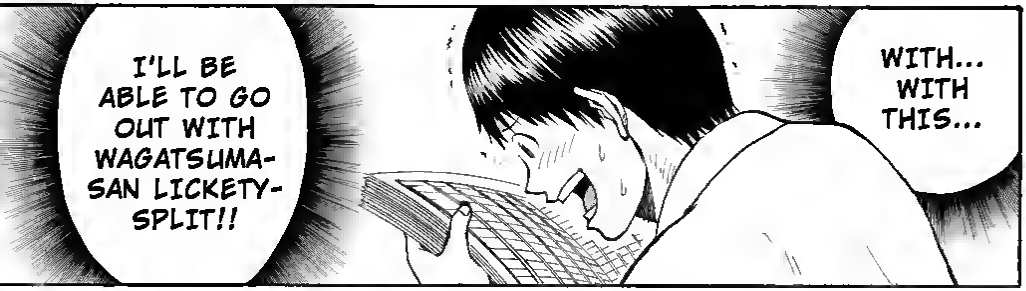

SAY, HIKARI.
YEAH?
WHEN A MAN CONFESSES HIS LOVE TO HIS SWEETHEART...
IT'S NIGHT
IT'S NIGHT
WHICH DO YOU THINK IS THE MOST APPROPRIATE ATTIRE...
A CRESTED HAORI AND HAKAMA* OR A WHITE TUXEDO?
STAFF
*A FORMAL JACKET WORN OVER A KIMONO / TYPE OF PANTS
PLEASE...
GO OUT WITH ME
SNAP
I THINK THEY'RE BOTH BAD IDEAS...
WH... WHAT?! BOTH OF THEM?!
THEN... WHAT IF I WEAR THE HAORI OVER THE TUXEDO?
WHAT'S WITH THAT MESSED-UP METHOD OF WESTERNIZATION?!
PLEASE...
GO OUT WITH ME
YOU NEED TO TOSS OUT THE IDEA THAT YOU CAN JUST MIX EVERYTHING!!

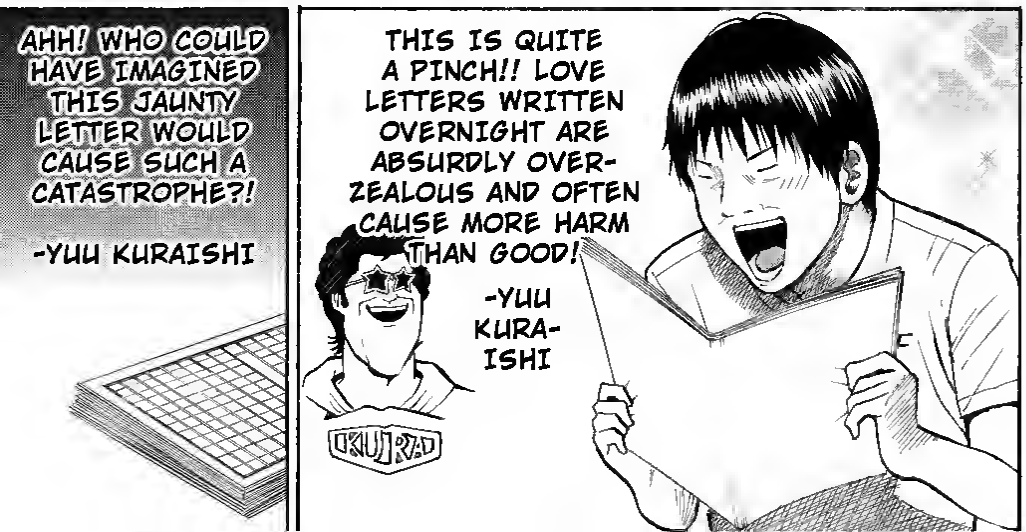

WHAT THE? I'VE GOT A BAD FEELING ABOUT THIS...
RMB ゴ RMB ゴ RMB ゴ
RMB ゴ RMB ゴ RMB ゴ
THEN WHAT SHOULD I WEAR?
YOU REALLY THINK SO?
STAFF
ONII-CHAN, DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE GOING TO...
ASK SOMEONE OUT?
=TWITCH=
WELL... HA! HA! HA! HA!
SO THAT'S IT?!
DON'T TELL ME IT'S THE GIRL YOU MENTIONED BEFORE?
WELL, YEAH! WAHA-HAHA-HA!!
YOU CAN TELL?
TURN
STAFF
...CAN YOU GREET HER NOW?
YEAH!! I CAN TOTALLY NOD WHEN I SEE HER NOW!!
NOD ?!!!
THAT'S ALL?!!

HE'S CLEARLY GOTTEN OVER-EXCITED...
AND LOST HIS HEAD!!
ONII-CHAN, I THINK YOU'D BE BETTER OFF TELL-ING HER OVER THE PHONE...
OR VIA A TEXT INSTEAD OF FACE-TO-FACE.
...HUH?
YOU THINK SO?
YEAH.
IF HE GOES UP TO HER WITH THAT DOPEY LOOK ON HIS FACE, HE'S JUST GOING TO CREEP HER OUT.
I SEE. A TEXT, HUH?
YES.
YES, THAT MAY IN FACT BE THE MOST SUITABLE METHOD FOR THE INFORMATION AGE.
ALL RIGHT.
LET'S SEE...
W
WATANABE, KEN
COME TO THINK OF IT, I DON'T KNOW HER NUMBER.
YOU'RE GOING TO TAKE THE PLUNGE WITH THAT WEAK RELATION-SHIP?!

YOU KNOW, A HAND-WRITTEN LETTER.
THEN, WHY DON'T YOU WRITE HER A LETTER?
SO A LOVE LETTER THEN, HUH?
I DON'T REALLY KNOW WHAT TO PUT IN A LETTER, EITHER...
YOU KNOW...
FLIP
FLIP
SKRITCH
SKRITCH
SKRITCH
SKRITCH
SKRITCH
SKRITCH
UM...
STAFF
THEN...I'LL JUST START WITH A FEW LIGHT LINES...


OH YEAH!!
THIS IS AO-SHIMA LITER-ATURE AT ITS FINEST !!!!
150 PAGES OF JAM-PACKED COLLEGE-RULED PAPER
CHIRP
CHIRP
IT...
IT IS DONE.
CHIRP
CHIRP

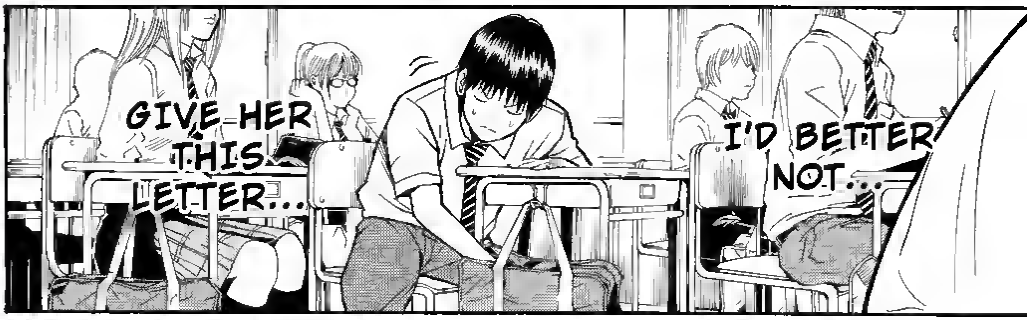

WITH... WITH THIS...
I'LL BE ABLE TO GO OUT WITH WAGATSUMA-SAN LICKETY-SPLIT!!


AHH! WHO COULD HAVE IMAGINED THIS JAUNTY LETTER WOULD CAUSE SUCH A CATASTROPHE?!
-YUU KURAISHI
THIS IS QUITE A PINCH!! LOVE LETTERS WRITTEN OVERNIGHT ARE ABSURDLY OVER-ZEALOUS AND OFTEN CAUSE MORE HARM THAN GOOD!
-YUU KURA-ISHI
OKUJRAD

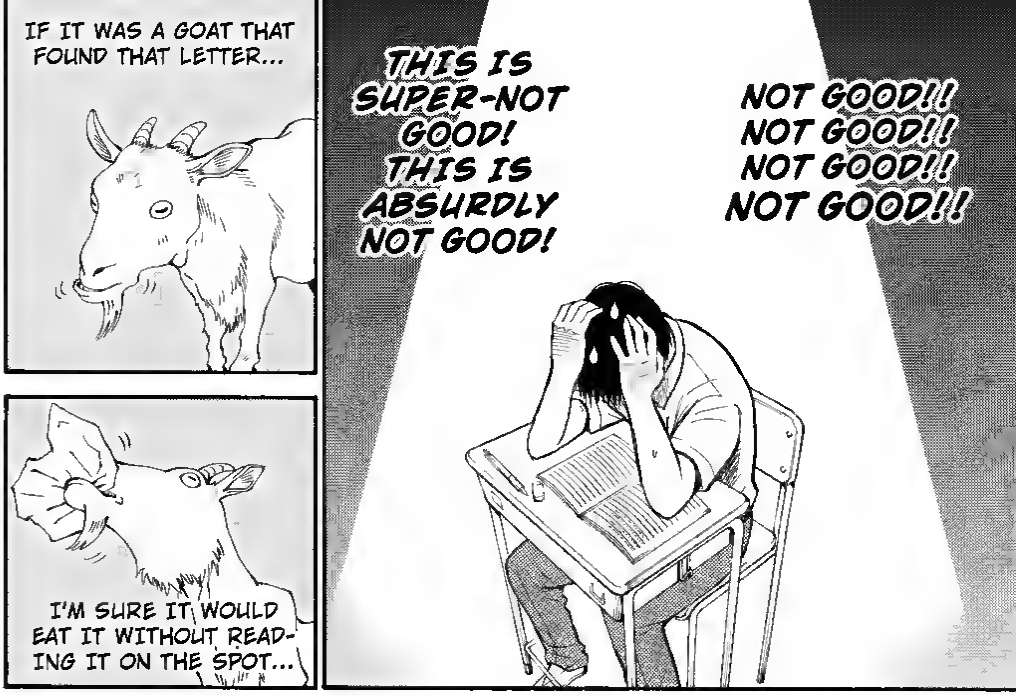
--
--
SOOOOO SLEEPY.
I AM SLEEPY...
CHANCE
THIS SUCKS...
I NEED TO BE AT MY BEST FOR THIS ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME CONFESSION, BUT...
AAAAAAH!

AHHH... SHE'S SO CUTE...
IF I GAVE HER THAT LETTER, DO YOU THINK SHE'D READ IT?
AOSHIMA-KUN, THIS IS LONG...
AHH!
SHE'S RIGHT !!!!

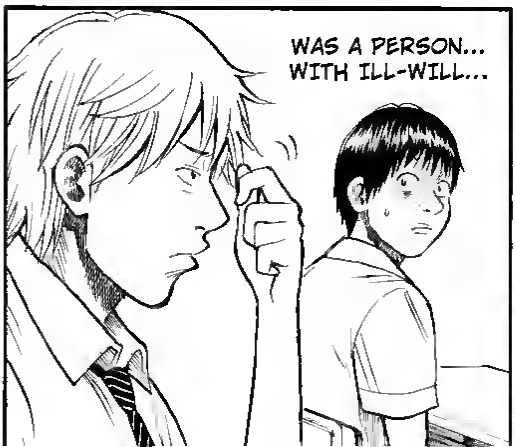
WHO DID I THINK I WAS, HIRO MIZU-SHIMA*?!
WHAT THE HECK?! WAS LAST-NIGHT ME PLANNING TO SUBMIT THIS FOR THE NEW AUTHOR'S PRIZE?!
I DON'T WANT YOUR PRIZE MONEY!!
*ACTOR WHOSE DEBUT NOVEL WON A PRIZE, DECLINED THE PRIZE MONEY
I WILL HAVE TO DELAY TODAY'S OPERATION: "TELL WAGA-TSUMA-SAN HOW I FEEL"!
IT SEEMS I HAVE NO OTHER CHOICE!!
AS AIR-WAGATSUMA-SAN SAID... 150 PAGES IS FAR TOO LONG!!
SHE'S TOTALLY RIGHT!!
*IF YOUR CRUSH PRO-GRESSES TOO FAR, YOU CAN CONVERSE WITH DELUSIONS


GIVE HER THIS LETTER...
I'D BETTER NOT...

WHY CAN'T I FIND IT?
HUH?
I VIVIDLY REMEMBER BRINGING IT WITH ME...
ALL RIGHT!! NOW...TO BATTLE!!
ZOOM
NO...
RIP
...THAT HAPPENED?
DON'T TELL ME...
SO NOW IT'S STILL WAITING ON MY DESK AT HOME?
JEEZ, I'M SORRY
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU FORGOT ME!
DID I WRITE IT AND FORGET TO PUT IT IN MY BAG...
DROP IT SOMEWHERE?!!!
DID I...
NO, DOES THIS MEAN ...?


IF IT WAS A GOAT THAT FOUND THAT LETTER...
I'M SURE IT WOULD EAT IT WITHOUT READING IT ON THE SPOT...
THIS IS SUPER-NOT GOOD! THIS IS ABSURDLY NOT GOOD!
NOT GOOD!! NOT GOOD!! NOT GOOD!! NOT GOOD!!

BUT IF A HUMAN FOUND IT...



EE... EEEEEK!! DON'T DO IT, YOU MONSTER!!
I'M GONNA READ IT OUT LOUD, SO PULL UP YOUR SEATS!!
I FOUND A LOVE LETTER!!
HEY!! LOOK AT THIS, EVERY-BODY!!
RISE!
DING
DONG
NO MATTER WHAT IT TAKES, I MUST RECOVER THAT LETTER BEFORE SOMEONE FINDS IT!!
...?
AHHH, I AM FAMISHED.
HEY, AOSHI-MA! LET'S GO BUY LUNCH.
I'VE GOT A FAVOR TO ASK!!
I CAN ASK THESE GUYS TO SPLIT UP AND HELP ME FIND IT...
I KNOW!!
WHOA, DUDE... WHY ARE YOU SO PALE?

...
JEEZ, LET'S HURRY UP AND GET LUNCH.
GURGLE-URGLE
グゥ～
GURGLE
WHAT IS IT NOW, MAN?
ALL RIGHT FINE...
ギクッ
DUDE...WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FOR?
EEP!
THUNK
NO, THAT'S NOT IT...
HEY, ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY WE WOULDN'T BE ANY HELP?!
NO... SORRY. DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.
YOU WERE CLEARLY LOOKING FOR SOMETHING JUST NOW.
DON'T LIE.
ハァ!?
THUNK
I-I-I-I'M NOT LOOKING FOR ANYTHING!!
THEN WHAT IS IT?!
I SAID IT'S NOTHING!
BING-BONG-BANG-BONG
HELLO, THIS IS YOUR PRINCIPAL, MR. UEKI.
WHOA! STOP IT! STOP THAT!
DON'T LOOK!! I'LL FIND IT MYSELF!
WHAT IS IT? YOU DROP SOMETHING?

SHUT UP AND GO BUY YOUR LUNCH!!
IS IT A PORNO DVD?! A DIRTY MAGAZINE?!
SO FOR TODAY'S BROADCAST, I THOUGHT I WOULD READ IT TO YOU.
ACTUALLY, I FOUND A LOVELY POEM THIS MORNING IN THE COURTYARD.
AHEM
"LOVE YOU! LOVE YOU! 'AI' LOVE YOU!
"YOU ARE THE JOAN OF ARC OF LOVE!
"CRAZY ABOUT YOU."
"I AM A LOST LITTLE LAMB..

"I WOULD GLADLY BE TORN LIMB FROM LIMB IF IT WAS TO PROTECT YOU!!
SUPER-INTO IT PRINCIPAL
"YOUR EYES ARE AN ETERNAL BLIZZARD.
"BLIZ-ZARD"?
"I'M DEAD BEFORE I HIT THE GROUND.
"THIS ROMANCE TOWN RUNS THROUGH THE BLAZING CONCRETE JUNGLE.
WHAT THE HECK?
YOU'RE TELLING ME THIS IS A POEM?
"A PITIFUL MIONIGHT THAT FOR-GOT ITS OREAM.
SUPER-ANGRY LAN-GUAGE ARTS TEACHER
THIS IS...
TOTALLY MY LETTER...
WHAT KIND OF POEM IS THIS?
"WHEN YOU'RE AROUND, MY HEART IS AN EVER-LASTING SUMMER.
YOU KNOW, THIS SOUNDS MORE LIKE...
YEAH, DON'T TELL ME IT'S...
...A LOVE-LETTER?

NO WAY! WHAT THE HECK?!
BAM
THAT'S AWFUL, PRINCIPAL!
HE'S SO SENILE HE MISTOOK A LOVE LETTER FOR A POEM!!
THAT IS ONE TERRIBLE LOVE LETTER!!
WHO THE HECK DROPPED THIS?!

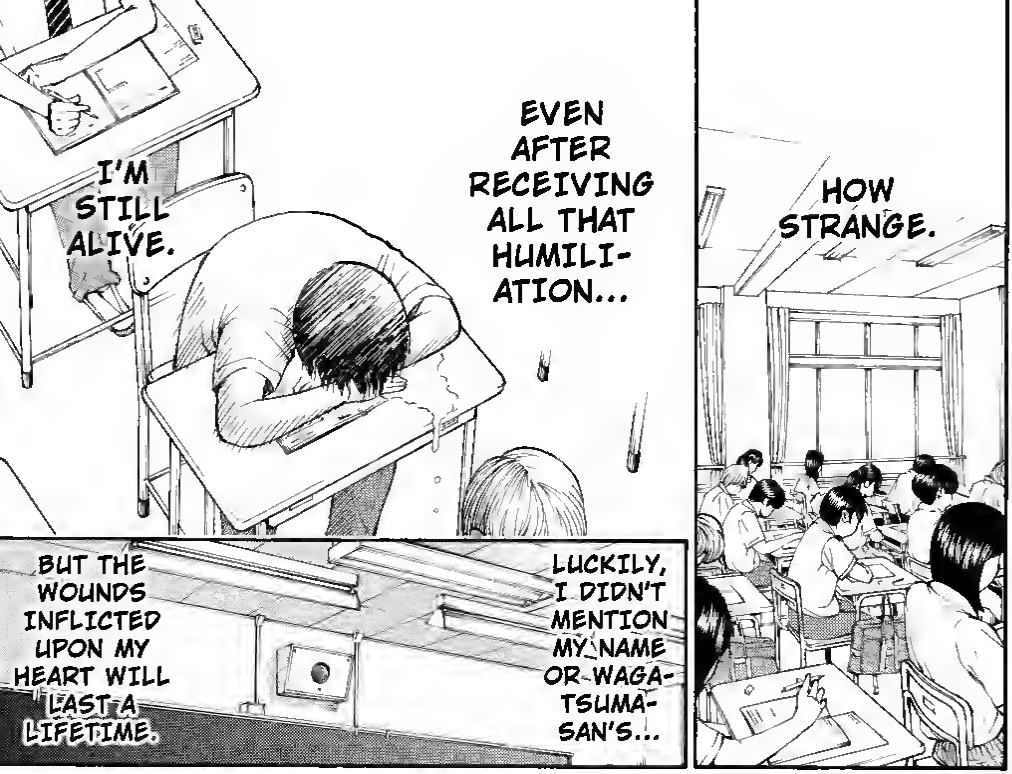
BUT THE ENTIRE SCHOOL HAS HEARD MY LETTER...
WAHAHAHAHA
"JUST THINKING OF YOU MAKES ME FOREVER."
NOT ONLY MY CLASS...

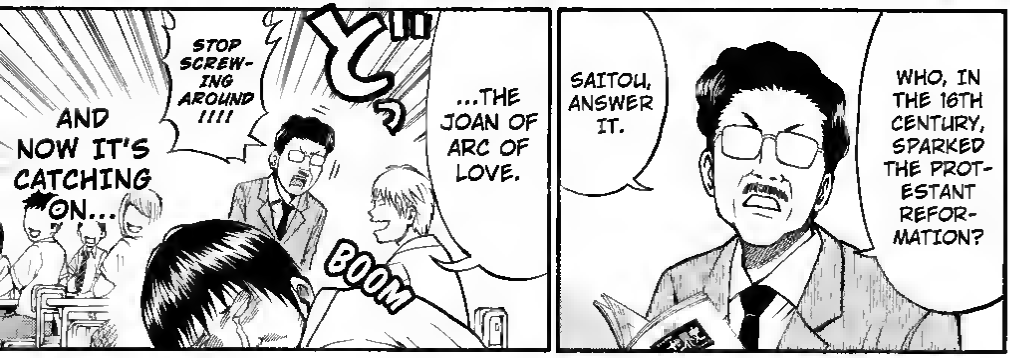
ALL RIGHT... I'LL DIE. THAT'S WHAT I'LL DO.

PLUS...

AND THAT HAG AIBU ARE LAUGHING AT ME...
AND ITOU... AND KOMATSU...

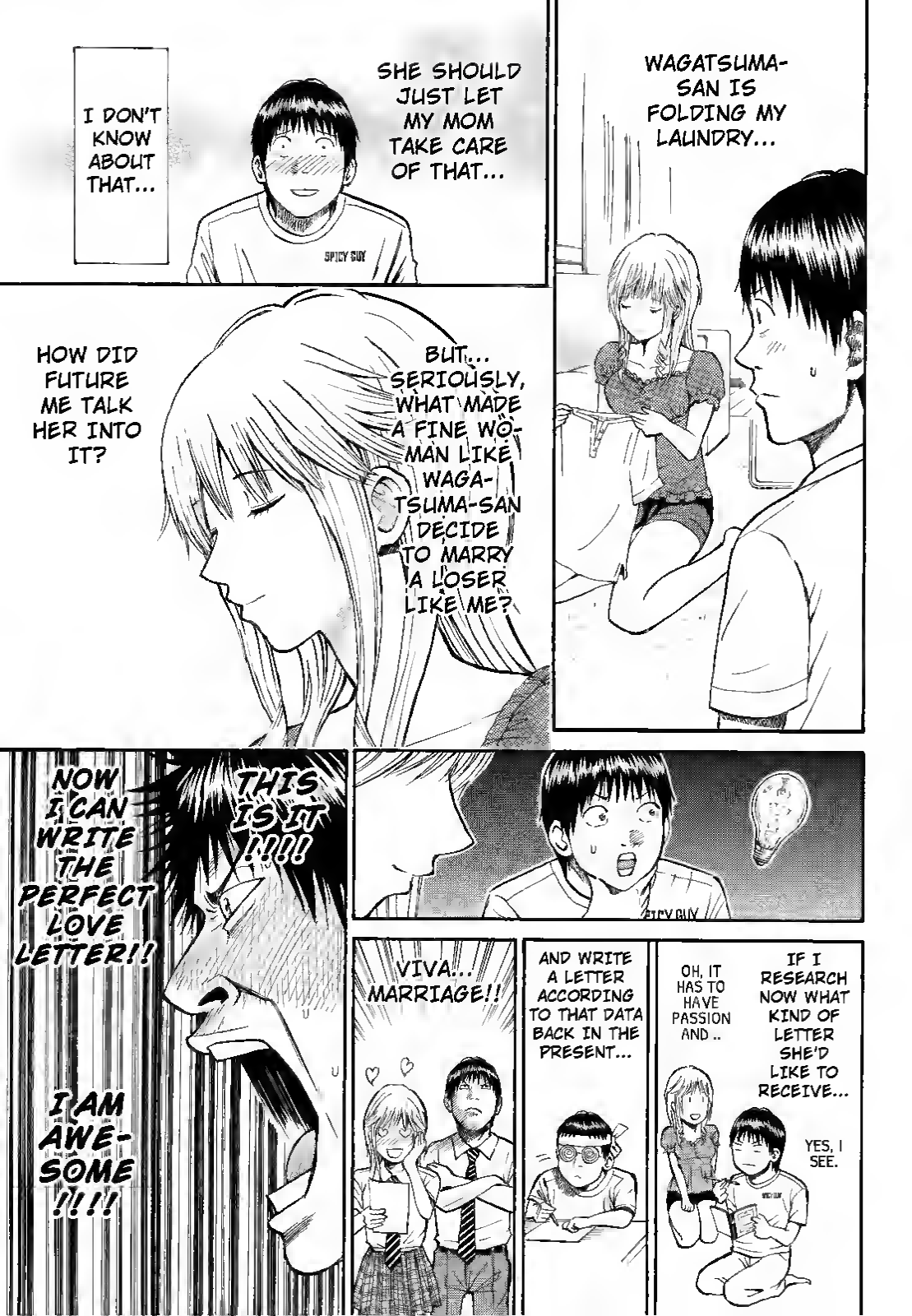
IS LAUGHING WITH THEM...
WAGATSUMA-SAN...
...
THE GUY WHO WROTE THIS MUST BE THE MOST UNPOPULAR GUY ON THE ENTIRE PLANET!
ISN'T THIS AWESOME, AOSHIMA?!
BWAHAHAHAHA!!
RIGHT?
...I KNOW...
SMILE
NO ONE IN OUR CLASS IS STUPID ENOUGH TO WRITE THIS!!
GUFFAW GUFFAW WAHAHAHA
THE GUY WHO WROTE IT...
IN THE NAME OF MY GRANDPA"
L-LET'S GO FIND...
DOING HIS BEST TO CREATE AN ALIBI
*FAMOUS LINE FROM "KINDAICHI CASE FILES"


I'M STILL ALIVE.
EVEN AFTER RECEIVING ALL THAT HUMILI-ATION...
HOW STRANGE.
BUT THE WOUNDS INFLICTED UPON MY HEART WILL LAST A LIFETIME.
LUCKILY, I DIDN'T MENTION MY NAME OR WAGA-TSUMA-SAN'S...

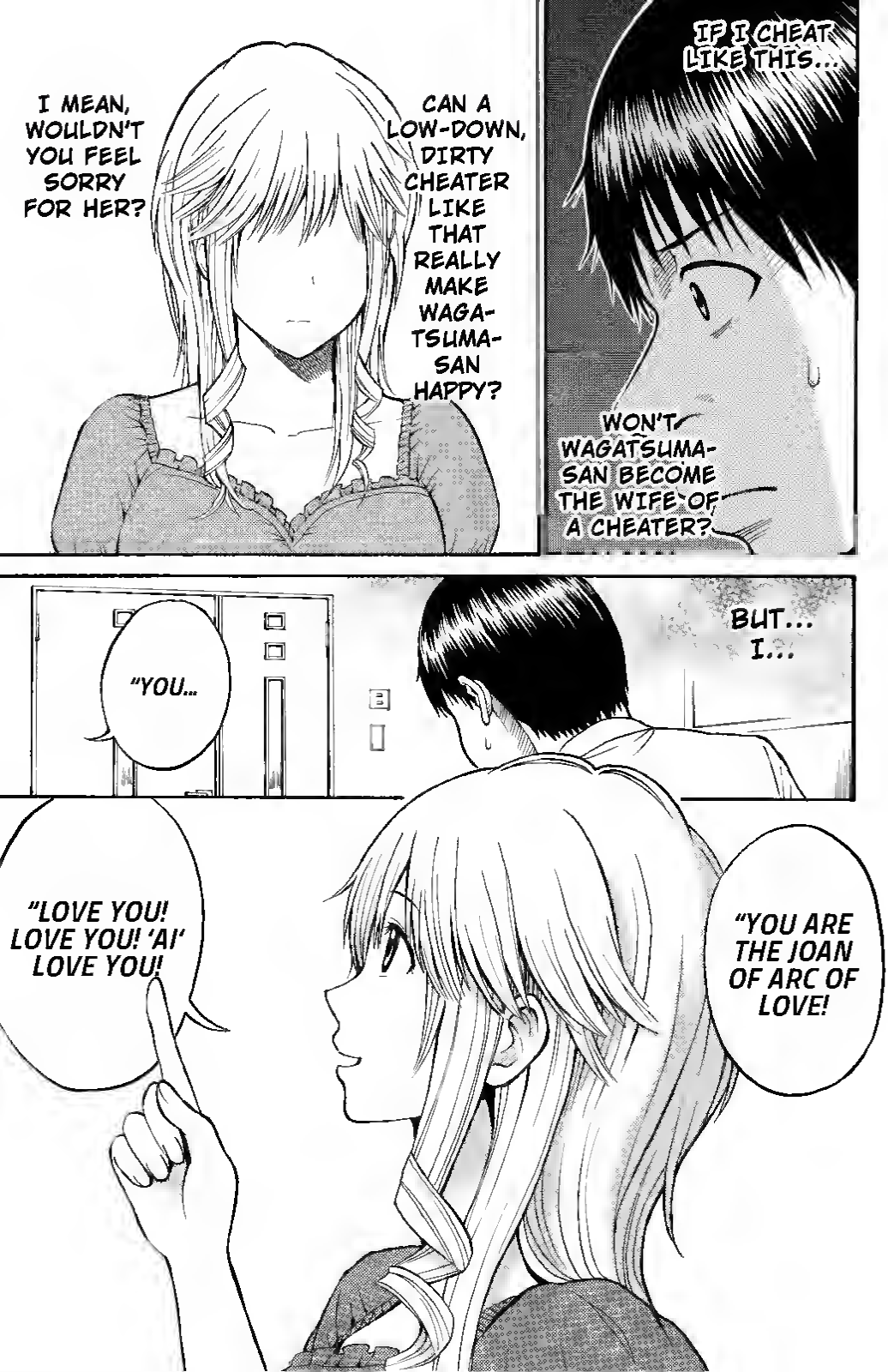

AND NOW IT'S CATCHING ON...
STOP SCREW-ING AROUND !!!!
なぁ!!
...THE JOAN OF ARC OF LOVE.
BOOM
SAITOU, ANSWER IT.
WHO, IN THE 16TH CENTURY, SPARKED THE PROT-ESTANT REFOR-MATION?

MY... MY...
BUFFOON-ERY...

TIME SLIP ACTIVE
DO YOU WANT ME TO IRON THIS?
...HUH?
DO YOU WANT THIS IRON-ED?
OH!
SO THIS IS A TIME SLIP?!
HUH? ARE YOU SURE?
YES!
THEN I GUESS I WON'T.
I AM NOT WORTHY OF YOUR IRON!!
WHUMP
IT IS THE HIGHEST OF HONORS JUST HAV-ING YOU WASH IT FOR ME!!
?

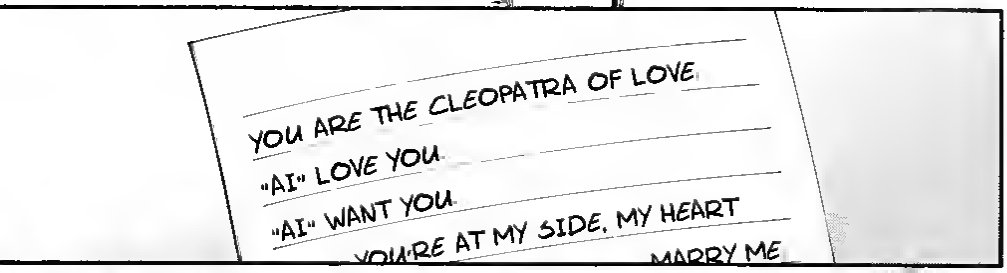

I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THAT...
SHE SHOULD JUST LET MY MOM TAKE CARE OF THAT...
SPICY GUY
WAGATSUMA-SAN IS FOLDING MY LAUNDRY...
HOW DID FUTURE ME TALK HER INTO IT?
BUT... SERIOUSLY, WHAT MADE A FINE WOMAN LIKE WAGATSUMA-SAN DECIDE TO MARRY A LOSER LIKE ME?
NOW I CAN WRITE THE PERFECT LOVE LETTER!!
THIS IS IT!!!!
I AM AWESOME!!!!
SPICY GUY
VIVA... MARRIAGE!!
AND WRITE A LETTER ACCORDING TO THAT DATA BACK IN THE PRESENT...
OH, IT HAS TO HAVE PASSION AND ..
IF I RESEARCH NOW WHAT KIND OF LETTER SHE'D LIKE TO RECEIVE...
YES, I SEE.

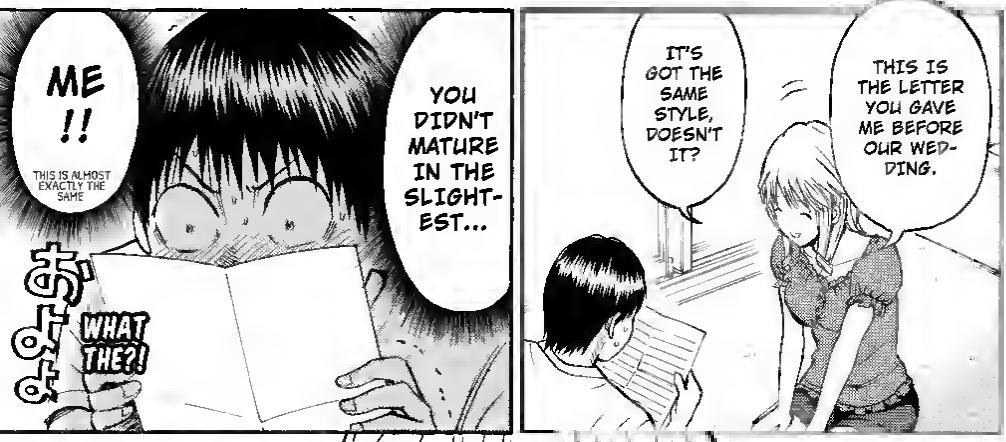
WH-WHAT KIND OF LOVE LETTER WOULD YOU BE HAPPY TO RE-CEIVE?!
AI-SAN...
HUH?
WHUMP
YES?!
WAGA-- I MEAN, AI-SAN !!!!
WHAT IS IT?!
SPICY GUY
HEH HEH HEH...
I'LL USE THIS BRILLIANT STRATEGY TO LAND YOU!
WELL...
WHICH OF THE LOVE LETTERS YOU'VE RECEIVED IN THE PAST LEFT THE BIG-GEST IMPRESSION ON YOU?
YOU KNOW! WHAT KIND OF LOVE LETTER WOULD SWEEP YOU RIGHT OFF YOUR FEET?
TO CHEAT LIKE THIS?
IS IT REALLY OKAY...
IT'S NOT SO MUCH "BRILLIANT" AS IT IS "CHEATING," BUT... HEH HEH...
WELL...
...CHEATING...

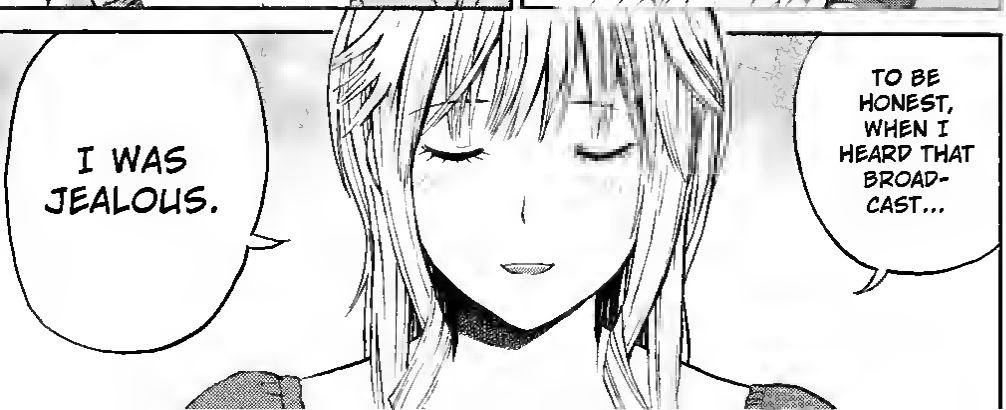

I MEAN, WOULDN'T YOU FEEL SORRY FOR HER?
CAN A LOW-DOWN, DIRTY CHEATER LIKE THAT REALLY MAKE WAGA-TSUMA-SAN HAPPY?
IF I CHEAT LIKE THIS...
WON'T WAGATSUMA-SAN BECOME THE WIFE OF A CHEATER?
"YOU...
BUT... I...
"LOVE YOU! LOVE YOU! 'AI' LOVE YOU!
"YOU ARE THE JOAN OF ARC OF LOVE!

"A PITIFUL MIDNIGHT...
WH-
"THAT FORGOT ITS DREAM."
...WAS IT?
WHAT THE?!
MY POEM ?!
...
THUMP
ドキ
THUMP
ドキ
THUMP
ドキ
THUMP
ドキ
W-WAIT...
WHAT IN THE WORLD IS...?
WHO WROTE THAT...
AREN'T YOU, AOSHIMA-KUN?
BA-DUUUMP
YOU'RE THE ONE...

MY HEART IS GONNA JUMP OUT OF MY CHEST...!! SOMEBODY... STOP HER!!
TH-THIS ISN'T GOOD!!
MWA-HA-HA!!
DUM DUM DUM
BANG
HI-YAH!!!!
H-HOW DID YOU KNOW THAT?!


YOU ARE THE CLEOPATRA OF LOVE
"AI" LOVE YOU
"AI" WANT YOU
YOU'RE AT MY SIDE, MY HEART
MARRY ME


ME!!
THIS IS ALMOST EXACTLY THE SAME
YOU DIDN'T MATURE IN THE SLIGHTEST...
なんなの
WHAT THE?!
IT'S GOT THE SAME STYLE, DOESN'T IT?
THIS IS THE LETTER YOU GAVE ME BEFORE OUR WEDDING.


I WAS JEALOUS.
TO BE HONEST, WHEN I HEARD THAT BROADCAST...

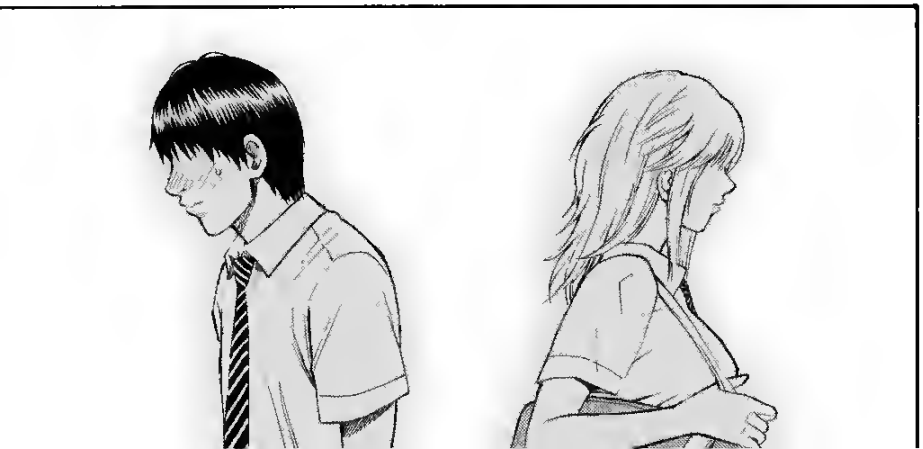
WELL, IT WAS HILAR-IOUS!
YOU LAUGHED AT IT!! AT THE TOP OF YOUR LUNGS!!
Y...
YOU LIAR !!!!
I MEAN, I DID LAUGH, BUT...
SPICY GUY
I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE GREAT HAVING SOMEONE AROUND WHO FEELS SO STRONGLY ABOUT YOU, YOU KNOW?
I DIDN'T REALLY GET IT MYSELF, BUT...
SO...
REALLY CONSIDERS THE FEEL-INGS OF OTHERS.
THIS WOMAN...
OH...

WELL...
HUH...? OH...
YOU KNOW...
SPICY GUY
FIDGET FIDGET FIDGET
もじもじ
YEAH
HUH?
WHO WAS THAT LOVE LETTER FOR?
NO! NO! NO! NO! NOOO!!
ドタ-ン!!
PLAP
SPICY GUY
COME ON!
DON'T DODGE THE QUESTION. WHO WAS IT FOR?
AHH?! THAT FACE! SHE ALREADY KNOWS WHO IT WAS FOR, DOESN'T SHE?!
HMM?
SPILL IT, MISTER!!
AHH!!
YOU'RE CLOSE?! YOU'RE REALLY CLOSE!!
Y-
FINE!! IF THAT'S HOW SHE WANTS TO PLAY IT, I'LL TELL HER!!
SPICY GUY

YOUUU!!
T.S. OVER
TH-
TH-
HMM?

WAS NOT THE JOAN OF ARC OF LOVE...
AND IT WAS NOT ME!!
THE PIONEER OF THE PROTESTANT REFOR-MATION...
GRIND
GRIND
GRIND
GRIND
...
MARTIN LUTHER (1483 - 1546)
I...I'M SORRY !!!!
BAM
IT WAS MARTIN LUTHER, YOU MAROON !!!!
I...
THERE'S NO MIS-TAKING IT...
AM A TIME SLIP-PER!!
OH!

MY...
FUTURE BRIDE...



GOOD-BYE!
OH!

HEY...
H-

AT THE MOMENT, THERE IS A CONSIDERABLE DISTANCE BETWEEN US, BUT...
AS YOU CAN SEE...
SHE'LL COME AROUND!
I'M SURE ONE DAY...
AOSHIMA!! IT'S TIME FOR PRACTICE!!
I'LL HAVE TO WORK MY HARDEST...
IN ORDER TO MAKE WAGATSUMA-SAN...
MY BRIDE!!
VOLLEYBALL TEAM ->
ALTHOUGH, AT PRACTICE, I'M ONLY A BALL BOY...

MY WIFE IS WAGATSUMA-SAN
SPLOOSH
SPLISH
HUFF
HUFF
ZAISHOU HIGH 2ND-YEAR
AI WAGATSUMA
HUH?! REALLY?!
I THINK THIS IS A NEW PERSONAL BEST.
YOU'VE IMPROVED YOUR TIME AGAIN, WAGATSUMA.
OH HO HO.

THAT'S THE SWIM TEAM'S ACE FOR YOU.
LOOKS LIKE SHE'S HARD AT WORK.
FRIEND A: MASAO KOMATSU
FRIEND B: SHIROU ITOU
PROTAGONIST: HITOSHI AOSHIMA
PART 2
DX's Burning

WAGATSUMA-SAAAAAN!
AHHHHH... WAGATSUMA-SAN... WAGATSUMA-SAN!!

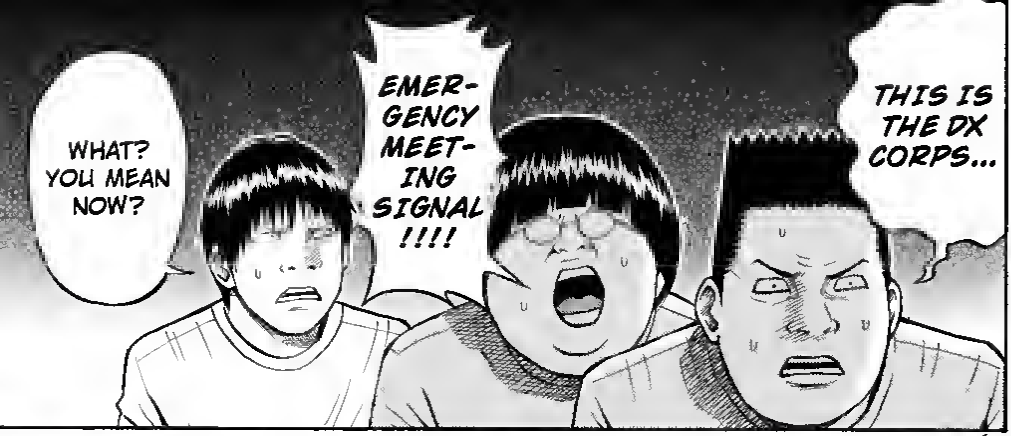
AM I REALLY GOING TO MARRY HER ONE DAY?
STUNNINGLY BEAUTIFUL WOMAN SHE IS...
WHAT A...
HMM...
IS GONNA THROW YOUR WAY...
YOU NEVER KNOW WHAT LIFE...
SPLOOSH
GOT TO KNOW EACH OTHER A LITTLE BETTER IN THE PRESENT TOO...
AND IT'S REALLY AROUND TIME ME AND WAGA-TSUMA-SAN...
SCRUBBA
SCRUBBA

©JIMON TERAKADO / TAKASHI HAMORI

TALK SOME SENSE INTO THIS IDIOT, ITOU.
I DON'T THINK THAT'S WHAT THEY MEAN BY "EVERY-THING"!!
LISTEN HERE, AOSHIMA!! EVEN WHEN IT COMES TO THE BENCHWARMERS' BUSY WORK, IT'S ONLY POLITE TO GIVE IT EVERYTHING YOU'VE GOT!!

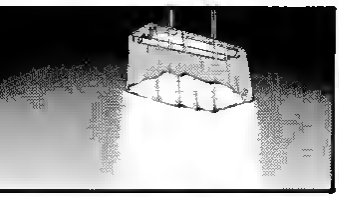
WHOOPS.
SLUMP
RMB RMB
THAT'S BETTER
AHH ?!!!
THAT IS NOT BETTER !!!!
SPANG
DANG IT...
YOU THINK THAT'LL ADD CHARM TO ANY-THING, MORON ?!!!
JEEZ!
WHAT'RE YOU DOING?! I'M JUST TRYING TO ADD SOME CHARM TO THIS BORING AFTERNOON!!

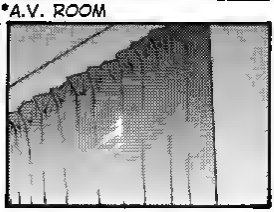
WHEN WILL THIS DISTANCE BETWEEN US CLOSE...?
HNPH !!!!
HNPH !!!!
HNPH !!!!
HUFF
HUFF
TUG-OF-TOWEL
MY FUTURE BRIDE IS THE HOPE OF THE SWIM TEAM AND THEIR ACE.
AND HERE I AM A SECOND-YEAR AND STILL ONLY A BENCHWARMER.
OHH!
I'M NOT EVEN SURE IT'S GONNA CLOSE...
AHH!!
Dx
L-LOOK AT THAT!!
WHAT'S WRONG, ITOU?

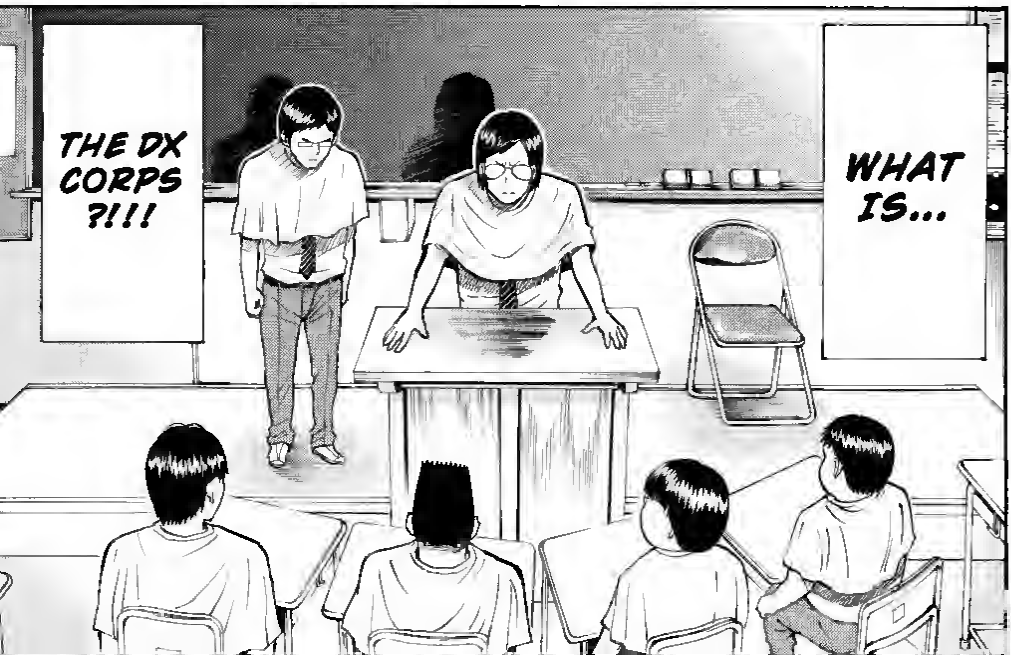


WHAT IS THE DX CORPS?

*A.V. ROOM



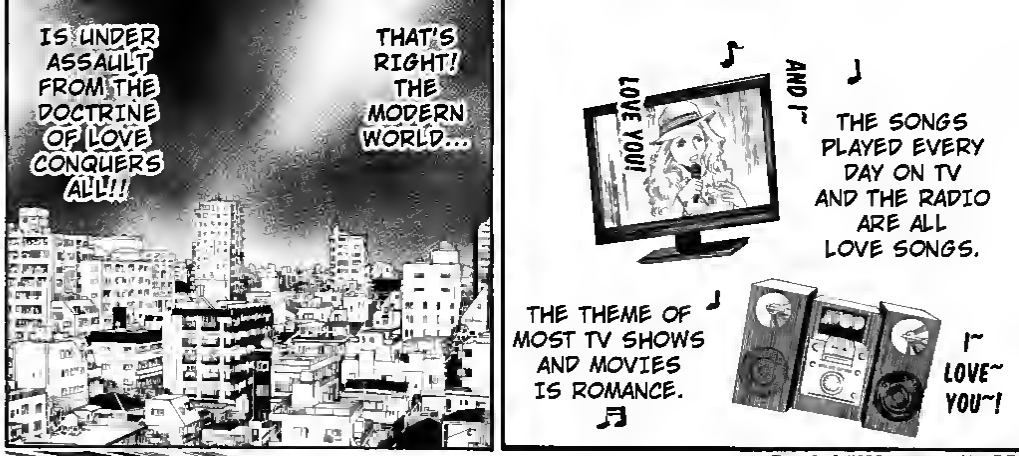




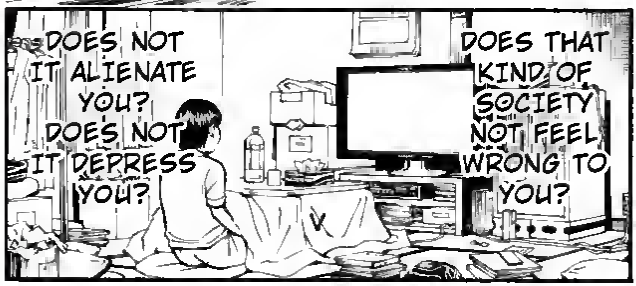
CURSE YOU, LIFE-HAVER SCUM!!
OUR FELLOW MEMBER MATRIX 2-KUN HAS BEEN HUMILIATED!!
CODENAME: MATRIX 2
THE REASON I ASKED YOU ALL TO COME IN TODAY IS NO LESS THAN THIS:
COOENAME: ELECTRIC MEDUSA
WELL...
WHAT HAPPEN-ED, MATRIX 2-SAN?
CODENAME GATE OF FLESH
ナンか GLANCE
I CAN'T FIND MY ERASER.
HUH?
EXCUSE ME... KIMURA-SAN?
MIGHT I PLEASE BORROW YOUR ERASER?
YES, IT'S ALL RIGHT.
IT'S ALL RIGHT. SURELY SHE'LL LEND ME AN ERASER.

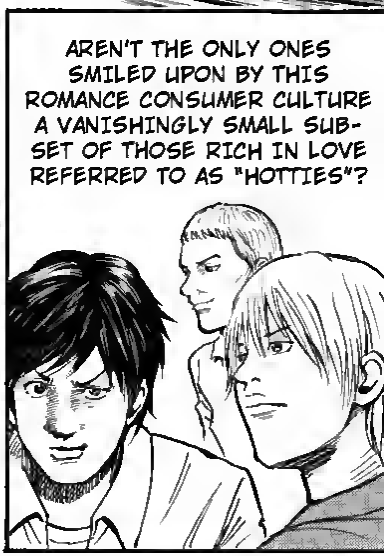
DON'T BOTHER GIVING IT BACK.
...AND THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED.
PLUNK
→SIGH←
THAT IS MEAN!! THAT IS SO MEAN !!!!
JUST HOW CLEAN DOES SHE THINK SHE IS?!
THAT'S SCARY!!
WHAT?! THE OLD "I DON'T WANT TO USE AN ERASER YOU'VE TOUCHED WITH YOUR FILTHY HANDS!" ROUTINE, IS IT?!
THAT IS PRETTY MEAN

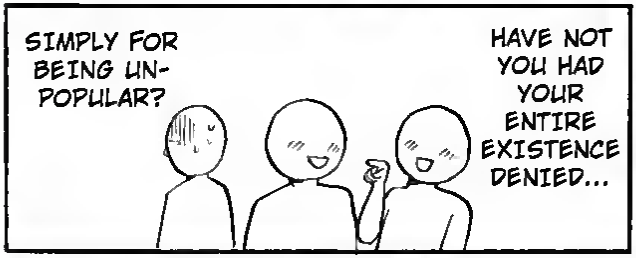
WHAT IS THE DX CORPS?!
I WON'T FORGIVE YOU, LIFE-HAVER SCUM!!
GH!! I WON'T FORGIVE HER FOR THIS!!


IS UNDER ASSAULT FROM THE DOCTRINE OF LOVE CONQUERS ALL!!
THAT'S RIGHT! THE MODERN WORLD...
I LOVE YOU!
AND I~
THE SONGS PLAYED EVERY DAY ON TV AND THE RADIO ARE ALL LOVE SONGS.
THE THEME OF MOST TV SHOWS AND MOVIES IS ROMANCE.
I~ LOVE~ YOU~!

BUT IS THAT REALLY FOR THE BEST?!




AREN'T THE ONLY ONES SMILED UPON BY THIS ROMANCE CONSUMER CULTURE A VANISHINGLY SMALL SUB-SET OF THOSE RICH IN LOVE REFERRED TO AS "HOTTIES"?



THERE EXISTS A GROUP OF MEN WHO DARE SAY "NO!" TO THAT WORLD!

THEY ENVY, BEGRUDGE, AND HATE THE POPULAR LIFE-HAVERS!! THAT IS THE DX CORPS!!

THOSE MEN WHO DON'T FIT IN IN CLASS JUST KIND OF FORMED A SECRET SOCIETY!

I☆N☆F☆O

THE FORMATION OF THE DX CORPS CAN BE FOUND IN "MY WIFE IS WAGATSUMA-SAN" VOLUME 2.

ON SALE NOW! ☆

MY SPECIALTY IS VOYEUR PICS!!

BOOOM!!

「オオ」

I AM ***SHIROU ITOU!*** NICK-NAME: "HOLEY UNDER-WEAR."

THE PERSON I MOST ADMIRE IS MASASHI TA**(BEEP!)**

*MASASHI TASHIRO (FORMER ENTERTAINER ARRESTED FOR FILMING UP WOMEN'S SKIRTS) IN 2000

MY HOBBIES ARE WEIGHT-LIFTING AND GAL GAMES!!

I AM THE LEADER, ***MASAO KOMA-TSU!!*** MY NICK-NAME IS "UN-BREAK-ABLE"!

I LOVE THOROUGH PRACTICE, BUT HATE THE REAL THING!!

MY SPECIALTY IS HEAVY EATING!
TEN RICE BALLS WOULDN'T EVEN COUNT AS ONE OF MY SNACKS!
I AM KYUUJI FUJI-KAWA!! NICK-NAME: "GATE OF FLESH"!

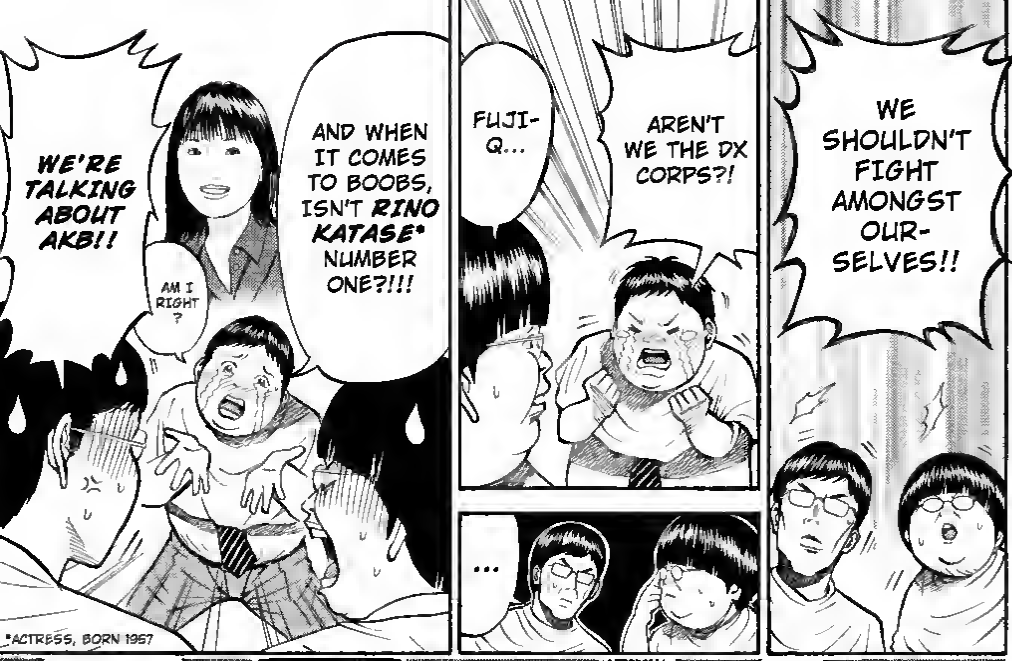
THE OBJECT OF MY AFFECTION IS PURE, UNSPOILED LITTLE GIRLS!!
AND NOW FOR THE MOMENT YOU'VE ALL BEEN WAITING FOR! I'M YASUSHI ONO! CODENAME: "MATRIX 2."
スクール
不審者に注意!!
I'M A PERVERT, YOU SAY? A CRIMINAL, IS IT? SO WHAT?
YES, LOLITA! NO TOUCH!!

MY SPECIALTY IS MY PERSISTENT CONSUMER COMPLAINTS!
BLAH
AND WHEN THE REAL THING AND THE ONE IN THE MANUAL ARE DIFFERENT? I DON'T LIKE THAT, OKAY?
MY NAME IS KOUJI NAKA-MOTO!! CODE-NAME: "ELECTRIC MEDUSA."
ISN'T THAT YOUR POSI-TION AS AN OTAKU-GOODS BUSI-NESS?
BLAH
BLAH
I CAN TALK TOUGH OVER THE PHONE, JUST PLEASE DON'T ASK ME TO MEET IN PERSON.

**"BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR SUSPICIOUS PEOPLE"

WHOOSH
DEEE!!
THE DX CORPS BATTLE CRY <-- CRY
ALL RIGHT!! FORM UP IN THE DIRECTION OF THE HOUSE OF THE WOMAN WHO HURT MATRIX 2!!
FIRE !!!!
READY POISON THOUGHTS!
I HOPE YOU HAVE TO COUGH AND SNEEZE AT THE SAME TIME SO NEITHER WILL COME OUT!
I HOPE THE CONVENIENCE STORE SELLS OUT OF JUST THE CANDY YOU LIKE!
I HOPE YOUR PERIOD'S LATE AND IT SCARES THE CRAP OUT OF YOU!
MAY YOU AND YOUR BOYFRIEND GET INTO AN ARGUMENT OVER SOMETHING INSIGNIFICANT, AND THINGS GET AWKWARD BETWEEN YOU!
MAY YOUR TEST SCORES GO DOWN BY FIVE POINTS ON AVERAGE IN EVERY SUBJECT!
...
YOU'RE ALL SERIOUSLY PRAYING FOR THAT WOMAN'S MISFORTUNE ALL FOR THE SAKE OF LITTLE OLD ME...
WELL...
WHAT IS IT THIS TIME, MAT-2?!
UHHH!!
UHHHH!!

WAH!!
わぁ!!
THANK YOU, EVERYONE! THANK YOU FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART!
WE ARE FRIENDS FOR LIFE...
WHAT THE LIFE-HAVERS CALL "BFFS" !!!!
MATRIX 2!!
MAYUYU IS CLEARLY THE ONLY CHOICE HERE.
WHADDID YOU SAY PIG-BOY?
WHAT'S WRONG WITH OSHIMA?
SAY THAT AGAIN, PEACH FUZZ
YOU WANNA THROW DOWN, PAL?!
YEAH, BRING IT ON!
HEY, BREAK IT UP, YOU TWO!!
GET WITH THE TIMES! THE CULT OF BIG BOOBS IS DEAD, OLD MAN !!!!
LET'S MAKE THE PERFECT BODY WITH MEMBERS OF AKB!!
FACE (KOJIMA)
BOOBS ( )
BUTT (MAEDA)
LEGS (SHINODA)
IF WE'RE DISCUSSING THE PERFECT BODY, OSHIMA'S THE ONE WHO HAS PERFECT BOOBS, RIGHT?!

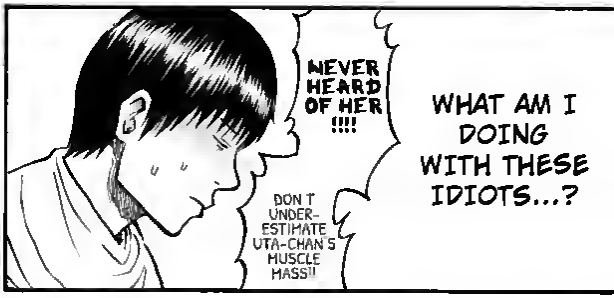

WE'RE TALKING ABOUT AKB!!
AM I RIGHT?
AND WHEN IT COMES TO BOOBS, ISN'T RINO KATASE* NUMBER ONE?!!!
FUJI-Q...
AREN'T WE THE DX CORPS?!
...
WE SHOULDN'T FIGHT AMONGST OUR-SELVES!!
*ACTRESS, BORN 1957

WHAT IS IT, LEADER?
OH!

HOW RUDE.
SHE'S A FRIGGIN' WRES-TLER, MAN!!
"EVERY DAY, DIVING SPLASH!!"
WHAT ABOUT AKB WITH NANAE TAKAHA-SHI AS CENTER?
WOULDN'T THAT BE SUPER-COOL?

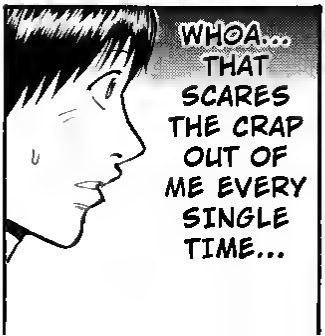
...ISN'T THAT THE BEST PART?
ISN'T SHE OVER SIXTY?!
HARUKA KATAYAMA'S SEMPAI AT THE TALENT AGENCY!!
YOU KNOW, NANA KINOMI-SAN* IS GREAT WHEN IT COMES TO SINGING AND DANC-ING!!
*ACTRESS, BORN 1946

YOU MORONS!! WHY DON'T YOU THINK A LITTLE MORE SERIOUSLY ABOUT AKB?!
YOU KNOW, THE MORE I THINK ABOUT IT, THE CLEARER IT BECOMES THAT IT SHOULD BE TAKAHASHI!
AND I DON'T MEAN MINAMI TAKAHASHI
...
YOU'RE ALL A BUNCH OF PEDOS!!
WHO THE HECK IS THAT?!!!
UTAKO MIZUMA SHOULD BE THE CENTER, RIGHT?!
SHE'S A FEMALE BODY-BUILDER WHO'S WON INTER-NATIONAL TOURNA-MENTS!!


WHAT AM I DOING WITH THESE IDIOTS...?
NEVER HEARD OF HER !!!!
DON'T UNDER-ESTIMATE UTA-CHAN'S MUSCLE MASS!!

WHAT'S WRONG, HONEY?
OH, NO!
IT'S NO-THING !!!!
ANARCHIST

OH ?!
HUH?
T.S. ACTIVE


WHOA... THAT SCARES THE CRAP OUT OF ME EVERY SINGLE TIME...

OH?
I MEAN, THESE TIME SLIPS ACTIVATE WITHOUT ANY CONSIDER-ATION FOR WHAT I'M DOING...
DON'T YOU THINK YOU SHOULD GET GOING SOON?
AOSHI-MA-KUN, ISN'T IT GETTING KIND OF LATE?
HMM?
WAGATSUMA-SAN MADE ME COFFEE... ♡
AREN'T YOU SUPPOSED TO MEET KOMATSU-KUN AND THE OTHERS AT THE TSUBOKYUU IN FRONT OF THE STATION?
GET GOING WHERE?
...HUH?
DANG IT!
YOU PROMIS-ED THEM, DIDN'T YOU? GO SEE YOUR FRIENDS.
NOW, NOW. STOP YOUR WHINING.
BUT I WANNA STAY HERE WITH YOU.
WHAT?

OHH! LONG TIME NO SEE!
WHAT TOOK YOU SO LONG?
OHHH, THERE HE IS!
どーん
BOOM
"TSUBOKYUU"
YES WITH PLEASURE!
WAHAHA
OHHH, YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED A BIT, AO-SHIMA.
AND MAT-2, HUH?!
FUJI-Q...
IT'S BEEN SO LONG!
HURRY UP AND GRAB A GLASS!
ITOU...
YOU'RE LATE, AO-SHIMA!
KOMA-TSU...
TO OUR LONG-AWAITED REUNION !!!!
A TOAST!!

...
WHAT ABOUT ELECTRIC MEDUSA?
WE'VE "ALL"?
HUH?
HUH?
BOY, IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE WE'VE ALL GOTTEN TOGETHER LIKE THIS, HUH?
HE'S RIGHT HERE.
DUDE.
D... DOES THAT MEAN HE'S...?
A FUNERAL PORTRAIT?
S... SKYPE?!!!
YO, AOSHIMA. LONG TIME NO SEE.

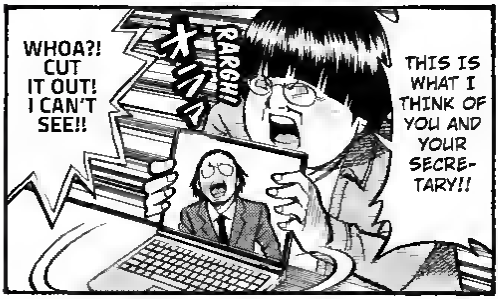
MORE THAN TEN YEARS...
HUH... I SEE... SO OUR FRIEND-SHIP HAS LASTED...
BWAHAHAHA!
WHAT THE HECK IS THAT?
OH! I REMEMBER THAT!
BACK IN THE PRESENT, BUT...
I GOT A LITTLE WORRIED WHEN WE GOT INTO THAT FIGHT...
OH, COME TO THINK OF IT...
PHEW... ホッ...
THANK GOOD-NESS...
YEAH, EVERY-THING'S FINE NOW.
OH.
DID THINGS WORK OUT FOR YOU, MAN?

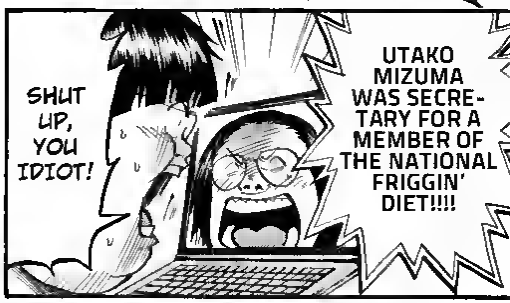
BUT YOU ALL GAVE ME ADVICE AND CHEERED ME UP...
THAT WAS A REALLY BIG HELP.
TALK ABOUT COLD.
DID YOU FORGET, MAN?
HUH? WHAT IS IT? WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
THAT DOES SOUND REALLY ROUGH !!!!
WHAT THE HECK ?!!!
WITH ALL THOSE UNPAID WAGES AND STUFF...
DON'T YOU REMEMBER HOW ROUGH IT WAS ON MAT-2 WHEN HIS OFFICE WENT UNDER?
WHOA... THEY'RE TALKING LIKE ADULTS.
COME ON, THAT WAS NOTHING.
THANKS, GUYS. I REALLY MEAN IT.
I MEAN, WE'RE...
DON'T SWEAT IT...
THAT REALLY MEANT A LOT TO ME.
EVERYONE SUPPORTED ME WHEN MY MOM WAS IN THE HOSPITAL TOO.

THE DX CORPS, RIGHT?
...!!
YEAH.
GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT.
J-JEEZ, YOU GUYS...
GROWING UP LIKE THIS...

HEY, NOW!
HEY, KOMA-TSU.
WHAT DID YOU SAY, YOU JERK?!
COME ON, WHAT'S GOTTEN INTO YOU TWO?
BOOM
SAY THAT ONE MORE TIME, I DARE YOU!!
YOU DON'T UNDER-STAND ONE BIT.
HUH ?!!!
YOU WANT SOME OF THIS?!
KRASH
CUT IT OUT, YOU GUYS!
THUNK
YOU JERK!!
HEY, COME ON, GUYS! STOP IT!
I TOLD YOU THE OTHER DAY YOU LOOK LIKE BRUCE WILLIS, BUT I DIDN'T MEAN IT!!
I TAKE IT BACK.
CUT IT OUT, KOMA-TSU!!
WAH! WAH!
LET'S TAKE THIS OUT-SIDE!
DON'T MAKE FUN OF ME, BALDY!!
FUJI-Q THAT'S THE WRONG GUY!!
KRAKK

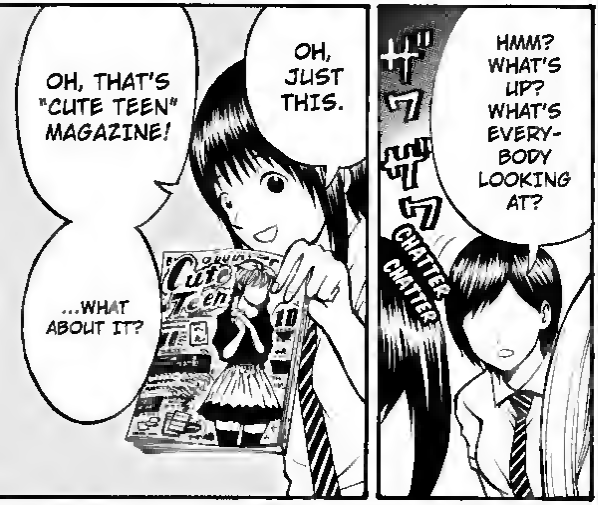
THESE IDIOTS HAVEN'T GROWN ONE BIT!!
HAVE YOU PEOPLE FORGOTTEN THE GREATNESS THAT WAS MAYUYU AT AGE 25?!
IT'S GOTTA BE NANAE TAKAHASHI!!
I'M TELLING YOU RINO KATASE HAS THE BEST BOOBS!!
WHY YOU!!
BRING IT ON, FAT BOY!!
THUNK
WE'RE TALKING ABOUT MAKING THE PERFECT BODY FROM THE MEMBERS OF AKB 10 YEARS AGO, RIGHT?! THEN IT'S GOTTA BE OSHIMA!! WAKE UP, SHEEPLE!!


WHOA?! CUT IT OUT! I CAN'T SEE!!
RARGH!
THIS IS WHAT I THINK OF YOU AND YOUR SECRETARY!!

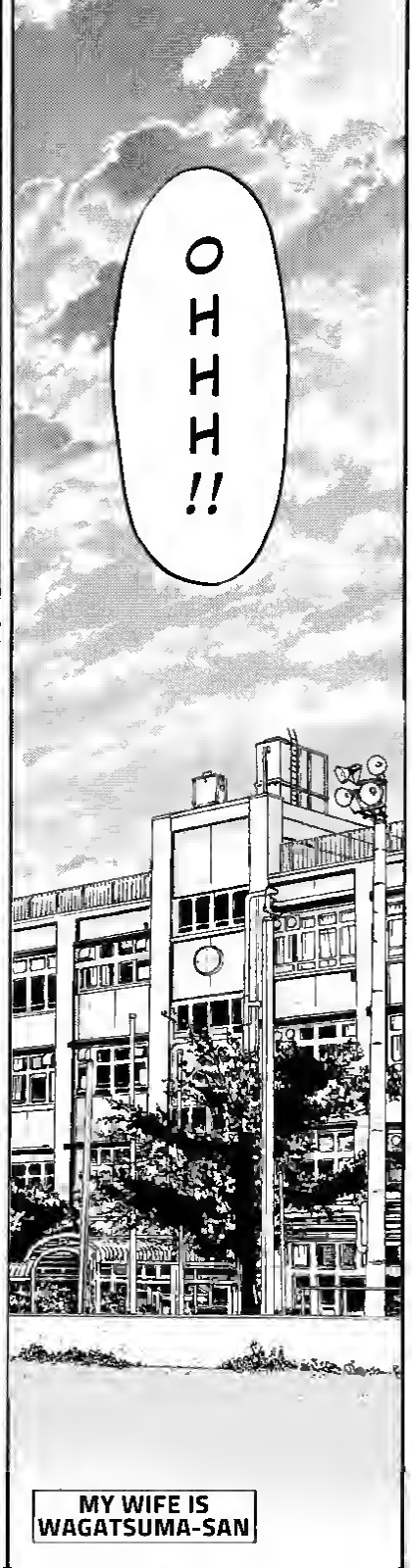

SHUT UP, YOU IDIOT!
UTAKO MIZUMA WAS SECRETARY FOR A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL FRIGGIN' DIET!!!!

...SWORE AOSHIMA FIRMLY TO HIMSELF
YARGH!
YOU D*CK!
MORON!
WHY YOU!
WAH!
"IN FACT, I'M THROUGH WITH THESE GUYS THE SECOND I GET BACK TO THE PRESENT!!"
"MAYBE I SHOULD CHOOSE MY FRIENDS A LITTLE MORE CAREFULLY...

CHATTER
WOW, HOW CUTE!
OH, MAN!!
SHE'S REALLY IN IT!
FOR REAL?
CHATTER


OH, THAT'S "CUTE TEEN" MAGAZINE!
OH, JUST THIS.
...WHAT ABOUT IT?
HMM? WHAT'S UP? WHAT'S EVERY-BODY LOOKING AT?
CHATTER
CHATTER

HEY, NOT SO ROUGH WITH THAT!!
THAT'S MY TO-KEEP COPY!
RIGHT WHERE?
LOOK, RIGHT HERE!


OHHH!!

PART 3
FAKE NUDE RIOT

HUH?! WHAT THE?! WHAT HAPPENED?!
DID YOU FINALLY BECOME A MODEL, AI-NYAN?!
NO! NO, I DIDN'T!
I WAS WALKING DOWN THE STREET THE OTHER DAY WHEN SOMEONE CALLING HIMSELF THIS MAGAZINE'S CAMERA MAN...
ASKED IF HE COULD TAKE MY PICTURE...
WOW, I THOUGHT THAT SORT OF THING ONLY HAPPENED IN MOVIES.
YAY! YAY!
WELL, I CAN SEE IT HAPPENING TO AI.
I MEAN, JUST LOOK HOW CUTE SHE IS.
WHAT IF THIS IS THE SPARK THAT IGNITES HER CAREER IN THE ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY?!
I COULD SEE THAT TOO!
THAT'S NEVER GONNA HAPPEN !!!!
HMM...
EEK!
EEK!
SO SHE'S MADE HER DEBUT AS A MODEL, HAS SHE?

I MEAN, SHE IS GOR-GEOUS, YOU KNOW?
THAT'S...
MY WIFE FOR YOU!!!
IN FACT, I'M SUR-PRISED THE WORLD IS ONLY NOW TAKING NOTICE.
OHHH! ITOU!!
BA-DOOM
NO!! I HAD AL-READY TAKEN NOTICE!!
HMM?
WHAT'S THIS?
ANO BEING ON THE CUTTING EDGE, I MADE THIS ONE STEP AHEAD OF THE REST OF THE WORLO.

...!!
WH... WHAT THE HECK IS THIS?!!!
WHA ?!!!
I AM ALSO SOMEWHAT OF A FAKE NUDE ARTIST.
IN ADDITION TO BEING A MASTER OF VOYEURISM...
*DON:T TRY THIS AT HOME, KIDS
GUH HUH HUH HUH HUH HUH HUH!!
SO YOU MADE THIS IN PHOTOSHOP?! YOU ARE JUST AWFUL, YOU KNOW THAT?!
F... FAKE NUDES ?!
FWIP
HMM?
NO MATTER HOW YOU LOOK AT IT...THIS IS PERFECT!!
BUT...BUT!! THAT BALANCE BETWEEN THE FACE AND BODY... THAT LIGHT LEVEL...

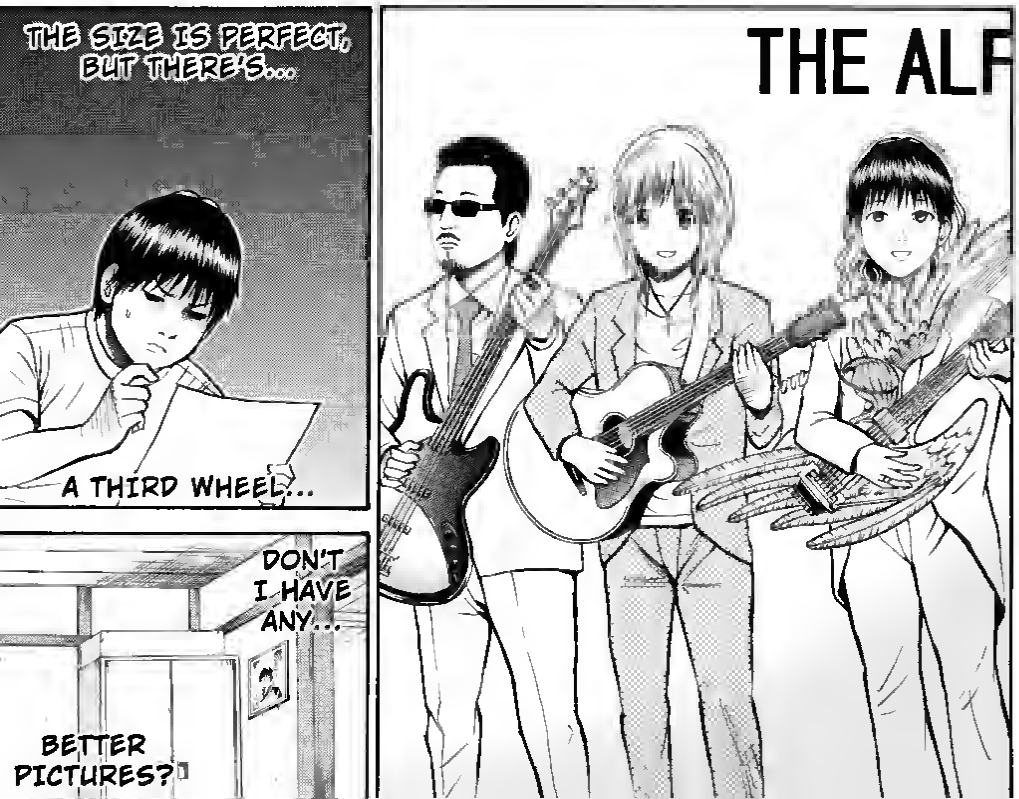
YAAA-AAAA-ARGH ?!!!
SHRRP
SHRRP
WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING TO MY WIFE ?!!!
?
OH, IT'S COOL. IT'S COOL.
STOP PICK-ING UP THAT CRAP!!
THEY WERE ART!
W-WHY YOU!! WHAT HAVE YOU DONE TO THESE MASTER-PIECES?!
OH? SOMEONE'S GETTING GREEDY.
WHAT'LL YOU PAY FOR 'EM?
YOU LITTLE!! HAND OVER THE LOT OF THEM!!
WHOA!!
WHAT ARE YOU WEAR-ING?!
FWAPP
AS LONG AS I HAVE THE DATA, I CAN MAKE AS MANY AS I WANT.

THEY ARE... TRULY IN-DECENT!!
MAKING THESE INDECENT IMAGES...
DANG THAT ITOU!! WHAT A JERK!!
THAT'S NOT RIGHT!!
WAIT !!!!
WAGA-TSUMA-SAN...
WAGA-TSUMA-SAN... !!!!
WAGA-TSUMA-SAN ISN'T THIS KIND OF GIRL!!
WAGATSUMA-SAN WOULD NEVER POSE IN SUCH AN UNLADYLIKE MANNER!!

TEAM ANALOG
SNIP
チョキ
SNIP
チョキ
SNIP
チョキ
SNIP
チョキ
WAGA-TSUMA-SAN'S WAIST IS MUCH THINNER!
NOW, I'LL JUST PUT THIS HERE...
AND...
ALL RIGHT!!
IN THAT CASE, I'LL JUST TRY THIS ONE...
HUH?
THAT DOESN'T LOOK RIGHT...
THAT DOESN'T LOOK RIGHT EITHER...
HUH?

AND MAKE A FAKE DOUBLE-SHOT OF THE BOTH OF US!
I'LL GIVE UP ON THE SWIM-SUIT...
OH, I KNOW!
THE LIMIT OF ANA-LOG
WHAT'S THE PROBLEM? MINE DON'T LOOK AS GOOD AS ITOU'S...
EXCITED? OH YOU AIN'T SEEN NOTHIN YET!
O GOD OF CRAFTS EI TAKAMI*!!
LEND ME STRENGTH!!

*STAR OF "DEKIRU KA NA?" ("CAN YOU MAKE IT?"), A SHOW IN WHICH HE AND A COSTUMED ASSISTANT PANTOMIMED INSTRUCTIONS FOR SIMPLE CRAFTS PROJECTS FOR CHILDREN



THIS IS DANGER-OUS!! THAT ARM IS TOTALLY BROKEN!!
WE PULLED OFF THE PIC-TURE AND THE MOVE!!
NO, LET'S TRY IT ANOTHER WAY.
*FIGHTING SPIRIT
闘魂
TIGER JEET SINGH
ANTONIO INOKI

*WRESTLERS; INOKI BROKE SINGH'S ARM IN A MATCH IN 1974

A TIME SLIP, HUH?!
OH...?
T.S. ACTIVE
AI-SAN? ARE YOU THERE?
WAGA-- I MEAN...
IS THIS WHAT I THINK IT IS?!!!
N... NO...
HMM~ ♪ HMM-HMM~ ♪
SHHHH
W... AI-SAN?
ARE YOU IN THE BATH?

THAT'S RIGHT. WHY?
SHIMMER
OH.
SO YOU ARE.
HUH...
I REALLY...
WANNA LOOK!!!!
PUMP

THERE IS A NAKED GIRL!!
ERONT DOOR
WC
CLOSET
JAPANESE-STYLE ROOM
WESTERN-STYLE ROOM
VERANDA
IN THE APART-MENT WITH ME...
RIGHT NOW...
AI WAGA-TSUMA (HER MAIDEN NAME) IS HERE, AS NAKED AS THE DAY SHE WAS BORN!!
AND NOT JUST ANY GIRL!! THE CUTE, ADORABLE...
(ARTIST'S IMPRESSION)
AHHHHH! WHAT'M I SUPPOSED TO DOOO?!
I COULD SEE WAGA-TSUMA-SAN NAKED !!!!
AHHH!! IF ONLY I HAD X-RAY VISION...
BY TAKING A BATH AT THIS UN-NATURAL HOUR...
SHE'S PRAC-TICALLY BEGGING ME TO SNEAK A PEEK!!
*NO, SHE'S NOT

YOU'RE MARRIED, SO WHY DON'T YOU JUST GET IN THE BATH WITH HER?
WHAT ARE YOU, STUPID?
*MATSUKO DELUXE: GAY COLUMNIST, ESSAYIST, AND PERFORMER
I AM GOING IN THERE!!
ALL RIGHT!!
I-IMAGINARY MATSUKO-SAN IS EXACTLY RIGHT!!
TAKING A PIC-TURE!
AND...
WE ARE MARRIED !!!!

IT'S ONLY NATURAL THAT WE WOULD BATHE TOGETHER!!
IT'S OKAY!! I MEAN, WE ARE MARRIED AFTER ALL!!
FWOOSH
THIS IS NOT SOMETHING AS TEPID AS A FAKED NUDE PICTURE!!
I'M GOING TO CAPTURE WAGATSUMA-SAN'S FULL NUDE ON MY CELL PHONE!!
I CAME IN WITH YOU?
WOULD YOU MIND IF...
HMM?
IT'S ALL RIGHT. CALM DOWN, MAN...
WA... AI-SAN!
MAD?
IS... IS SHE...
THUMP
THUMP
HERE GOES NOTHING!!
ALL RIGHT...
...SURE, THAT'S FINE.
FWUMPH
KER-CHUNK

シャーッ
SHHHH
ザッシュ
SCRUBBA
ザッシュ
SCRUBBA
ザッシュ
SCRUBBA

HUH?

...?!
T.S. OVER
EEEEEK!!
WHAT'S WRONG, ONII-CHAN?!
RUMP?
ロリヤ
I TRIED TO SNEAK A PEEK AT WAGA-TSUMA-SAN...
BUT IN-STEAD SHE GOT AN EYEFUL OF MY DESERT EAGLE...
N-NUH-N-NO-THING !!!!
WHUMP
WHAT'S WITH THESE PIC-TURES ?
HMM?
WHOA ?!!!
...HUH?
WHEN DID YOU GET HERE ?!!!

HEAVY~
ROTATION~
**"HEAVY ROTATION" - AKB48'S 17TH SINGLE
ITOU.
HMM?
YOU CAN HAVE THESE BACK.
HUH?
I'M VERY SORRY, SIR, BUT...
WE CANNOT ACCEPT RETURNS ON USED MERCHANDISE.
I DIDN'T USE THEM !!!!
OH... THE ONES FROM YESTERDAY.
WHOA! DON'T OPEN THAT IN PUBLIC!!
JUST LOOK AT THIS ONE. IT'S ALL CRUMPLED UP...
WHAT KIND OF KINKY CRAP ARE YOU INTO, MAN?
I-

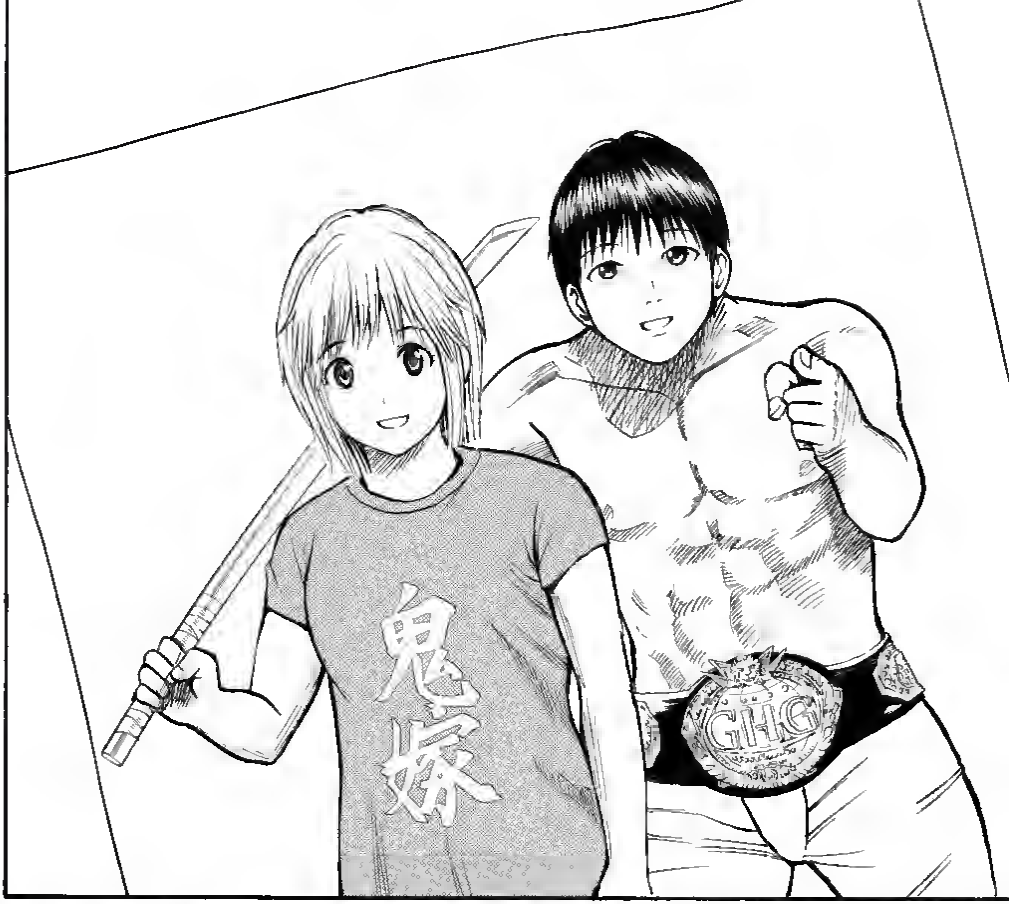
WHOA ?!!!
FWOOSH
I TOLD YOU, I DIDN'T USE...
RUSTLE
IS THAT ALL OF THEM?!
1, 2, 3, 4...
NO... WE'RE MIS-SING ONE!!
HUFF HUFF
OHHH! JUST LIKE THE FIRST CHAPTER OF "HAJIME NO IPPO"!!!!
WOOSH
*BOXING MANGA

RARGH!!
THERE IT IS!!
YOU STUPID, PAPER JERK!!
GET BACK HERE...
I MUSTN'T!!
I CANNOT LET ANY-ONE SEE THAT PIC-TURE!!
WAGA-TSUMA-SAN!!
I CANNOT ALLOW DIS-GRACE TO BEFALL...
I WILL...
PROTECT HEEER!!

SPEAK...
HERE YOU ARE.
ISN'T THIS YOURS, AOSHIMA-KUN?
OF THE FRIGGIN' DEVIL!!
!!
HUFF
DON'T LOOOOOK !!!!
HUFF
HMM?
HUH...?
WHAT IS THIS?
AHHH!!

IT'S NOT WHAT YOU THINK, WAGATSUMA-SAN!! IT'S NOT MINE! ITOU MADE IT!! THIS ISN'T MY FAULT!!
OH GOD, SHE'S LOOKING! SHE'S LOOKING! SHE'S REALLY LOOKING!!
WHY NUDE?
SAY...
THANKS...
TH...
THIS IS NO TIME FOR "THANKS," IS IT?!!
...
くるっ
TURN

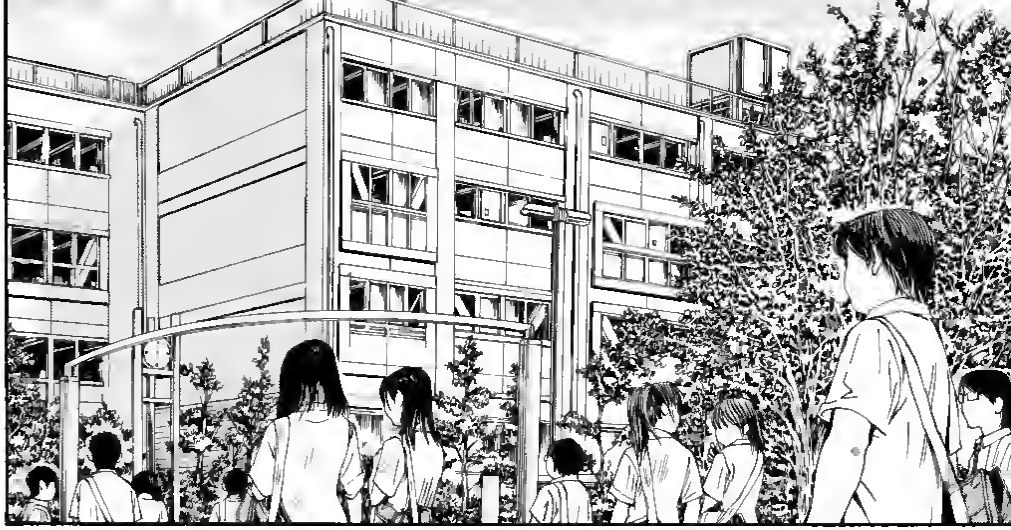
SHE MUST DESPISE ME NOW...
I'M... DONE FOR, AREN'T I?
IT'S...IT'S ALL OVER.
THERE ISN'T A GIRL OUT THERE WHO WANTS TO MARRY A PERVERT WHO MAKES FAKE NUDE PICTURES...
WHAT'M I GONNA DO NOW? THAT PROBABLY CHANGED THE FU-TURE...
HUFF
HUFF
WH...
WHAT'M I GONNA DO?
WHAT'M I GONNA DO?!!
WHAT'M I GONNA DO?
IT'S ALL BECAUSE OF THIS...
THIS STUPID...



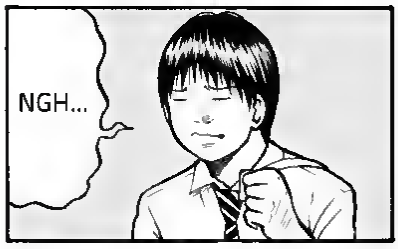
*"ONIYOME" ("DEMON BRIDE"), NICKNAME OF FORMER WRESTLER AKIRA HOKUTO

*YEARLY CHARITY MARATHON. "24 HOUR TV MARATHON" HOKUTO AKIRA'S FAMILY PARTICIPATED IN 2012

PART 4
COMMUNICATION BREAKDOWN

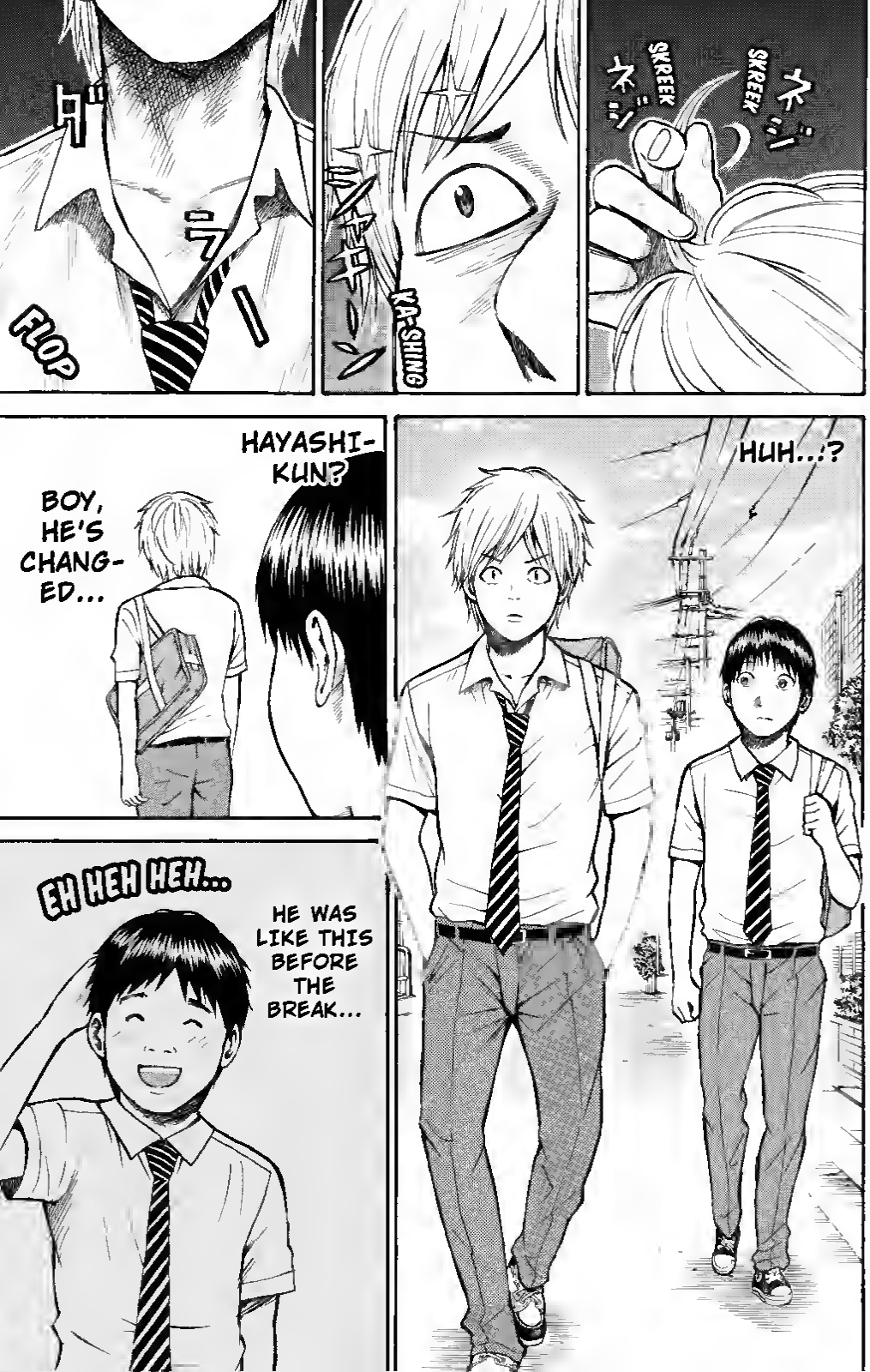


Y...

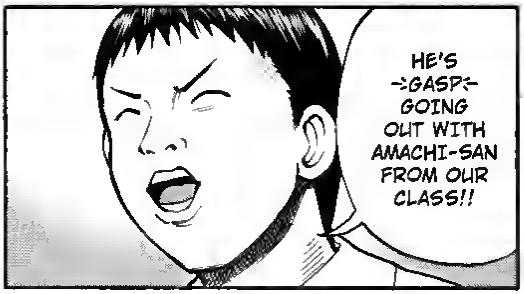

NGH...

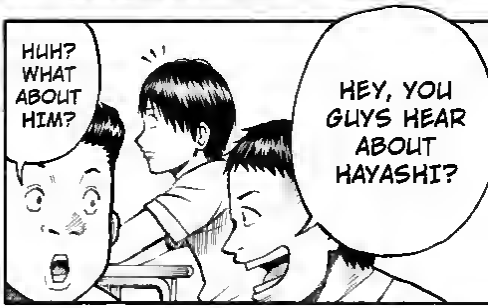
HMM?
NOT GOOD... I'VE STILL GOT A BAD CASE OF VACATION LAG...

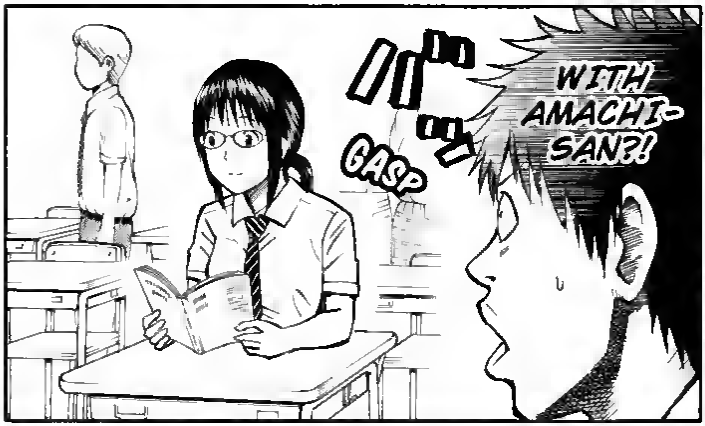
YAAAWN...


SKREEK
SKREEK
FLOP
KA-SHING
HUH...!?
HAYASHI-KUN?
BOY, HE'S CHANG-ED...
EH HEH HEH...
HE WAS LIKE THIS BEFORE THE BREAK...

WHAT IS IT THAT CHANGED HIM SO?!


HE'S -:GASP:- GOING OUT WITH AMACHI-SAN FROM OUR CLASS!!


HUH? WHAT ABOUT HIM?
HEY, YOU GUYS HEAR ABOUT HAYASHI?

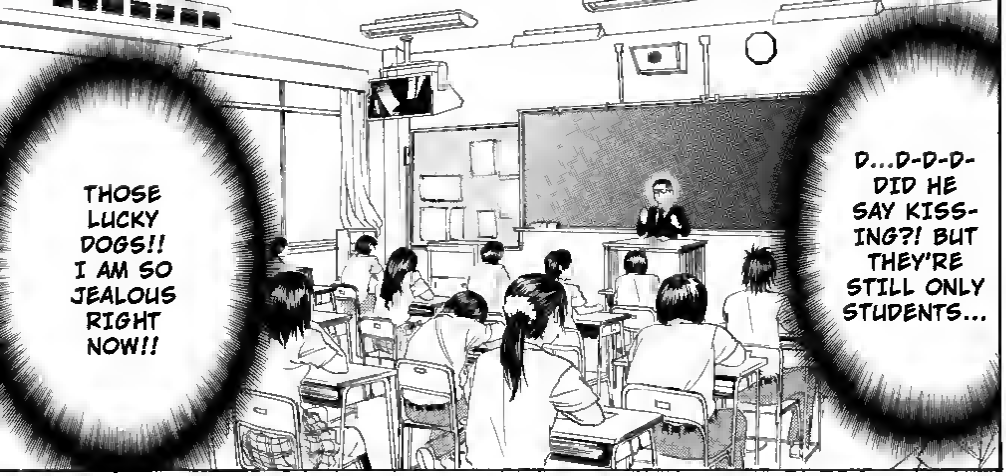

GASP
WITH AMACHI-SAN?!

WHA?!

AMACHI-SAN, KNOWN AS A PLAIN GIRL WHO WOULD SHINE BRIGHTLY WITH A LITTLE POLISH... A DIAMOND-IN-THE-ROUGH TYPE AMONG THOSE INTO THAT SORT OF THING, AND HAYASHI-KUN...
ARE DATING?!

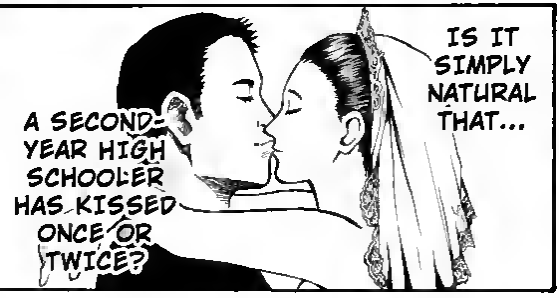
AS A FRIEND AND CLASS-MATE, SHOULDN'T I GIVE THEM MY BLESS-ING?
WHAT IS THIS FEEL-ING?
WHAT THE?!
GH...
DON'T TELL ME...
SOME-THING OF A SHOCK.
IT'S KIND OF... COME AS...
SO WHAT DO YOU MAKE OF THIS?
CHEAT-ER!!
KRAK
SPECIAL MOVE: SELF-PUNCH
WHY... YOU...
DID I LIKE AMACHI-SAN?!
NO! THAT'S NOT IT!
THIS FEELING IS...
HOW DO I PUT IT...?
I'M SORRY, AMACHI-SAN!!
BUT I ALREADY HAVE A FIANCÉE BY THE NAME OF WAGATSUMA-SAN!!
*"THE LIFE OF GUSKO BUDORI" - KENJI MIYAZAWA

N-NO...
IT'S MORE LIKE...
FLAP
バサッ
FLAP
バサッ
IT RESEMBLES THE WAY I FELT WHEN THE SPARROWS I RAISED AS A KID FLEW AWAY...
I SAW THOSE TWO KISSING.
OH YEAH, COME TO THINK OF IT...
NO, MAYBE THAT'S NOT IT...
THE WAY A PARENT FEELS WHEN THEIR CHILD GETS MARRIED?!
I SAW THOSE TWO KISSING.
Sooo
SAY WHAT ?!!!


THOSE LUCKY DOGS!! I AM SO JEALOUS RIGHT NOW!!
D...D-D-D-DID HE SAY KISSING?! BUT THEY'RE STILL ONLY STUDENTS...

NO... WAIT A SECOND ?!!!
GASP

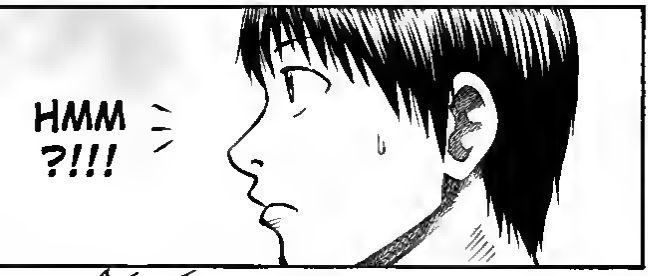
I MEAN, I'VE GOT A WIFE, AND WE HAVEN'T EVEN KISSED YET!!
*NOT YET, YOU DON'T.
GRR!


A SECOND-YEAR HIGH SCHOOLER HAS KISSED ONCE OR TWICE?
IS IT SIMPLY NATURAL THAT...

THEN... DOES THAT MEAN...
HUH...? NO WAY...

FLAP
バサ
FLAP
バサ
FLAP
バサ
SOMETHING LIKE...
THIS?!
EVERYONE S ALREADY BEEN KISSED?!
**"KISSED"
DON'T LEAVE ME BEHIND!!
STOMP STOMP STOMP STOMP STOMP STOMP
STOMP STOMP
AHHH?! WAIT UP, GUYS!
HAS DONE ANY-THING OF THE SORT...
THERE'S NO WAY THIS GUY...
ITOU!
NO, I DON'T BELIEVE IT...
THAT CAN'T BE...

AHH?! THE REAL ITOU-SAN CAME OUT OF THE ZIPPER ?!!!
AND HE'S TOTALLY POPULAR!!
キャー
EEK! HE'S SO DREAMY!
ステキィー
PUNK パカー
ZZZZZZZ
→PHEW← I'M BUSH-ED.

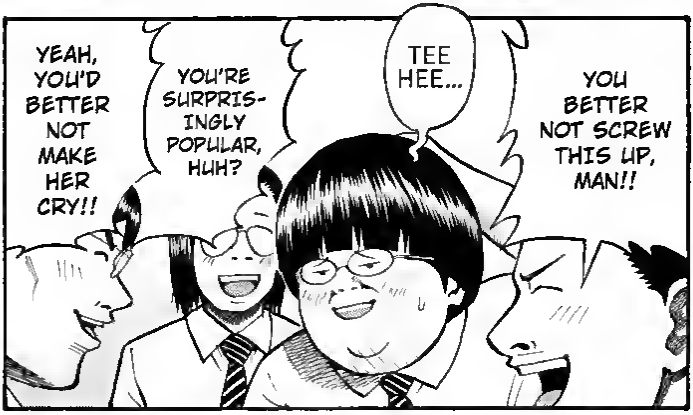

HMM ?!!!

HIP, HIP, HOORAY!
BUT IT'S NOT LIKE THERE'S ANYTHING HERE...
RATTLE
WOO-HOO!

MY LEGS UNCONSCIOUSLY CARRIED ME TO DX CORPS HQ...
視聴覚室
*A.V. ROOM

THAT'D NEVER HAPPEN...
NO, NO...
WOBBLE
FUU...
WOBBLE
FUU...

CONGRAT-ULATIONS, ITOU!!
HIP, HIP, HOORAY! HIP, HIP, HOORAY!
BOOM

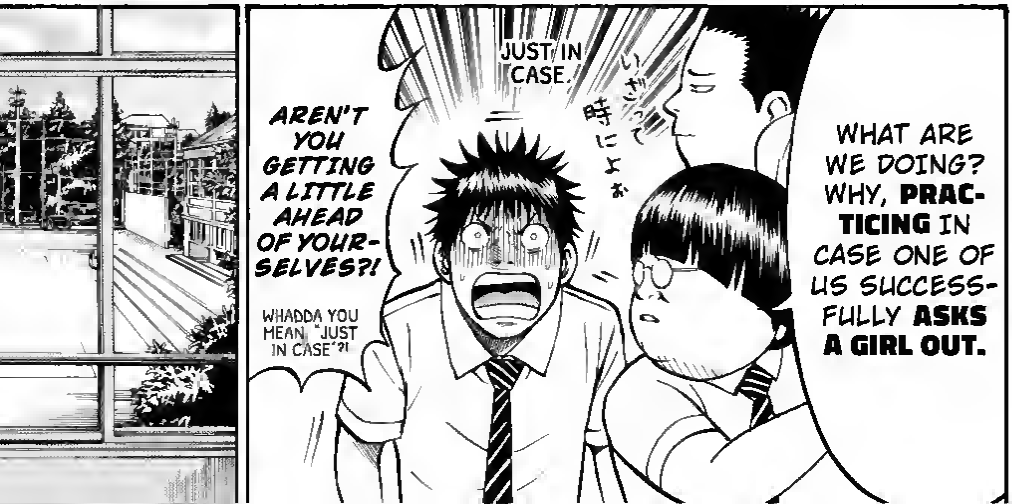

YEAH, YOU'D BETTER NOT MAKE HER CRY!!
YOU'RE SURPRIS-INGLY POPULAR, HUH?
TEE HEE...
YOU BETTER NOT SCREW THIS UP, MAN!!

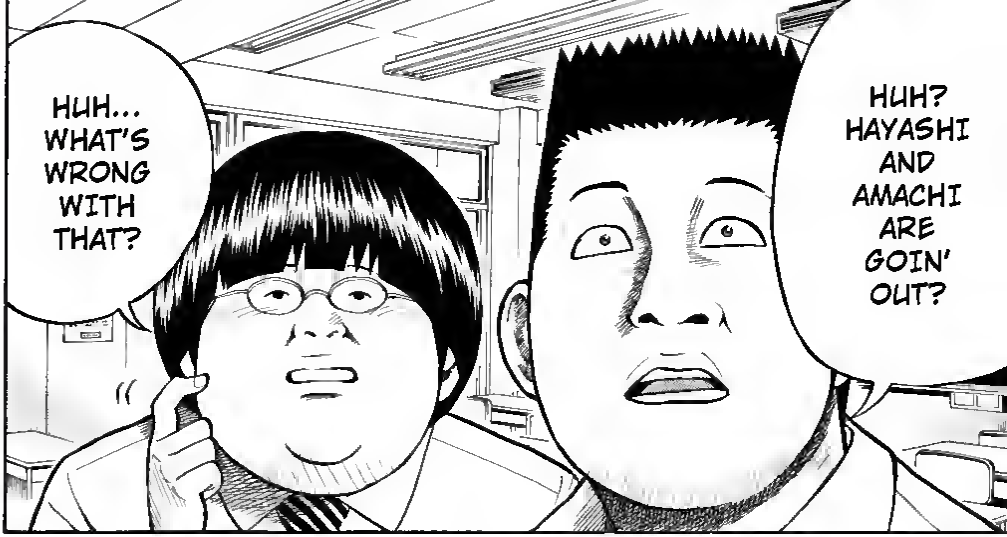
THAT'S GREAT, ITOU!!
...WHAT THE?
YEAH!
WOO-HOO!

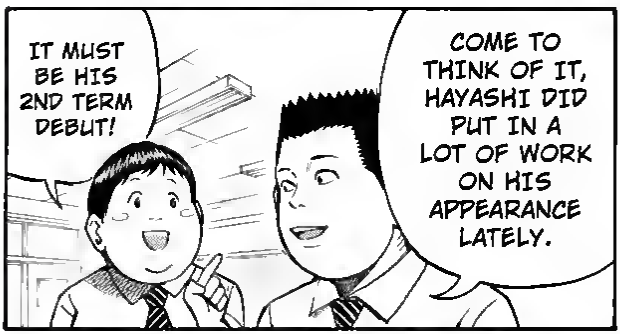
THAT'S AMAZ-ING, ITOU-SAN!!
...HUH?
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU **ASKED HER OUT,** AND SHE ACTUALLY SAID **"YES."**

I-ITOU-SAN? YOU GOT A G-G-G-GIRL-FRIEND?!
DO MY EARS DECEIVE ME?
OH, AO-SHIMA.
POURING SWEAT
PIIEE!
OH, TIME'S UP.
OKAY, THAT'S FIVE MIN-UTES NEXT!
OH, I CALL NEXT.

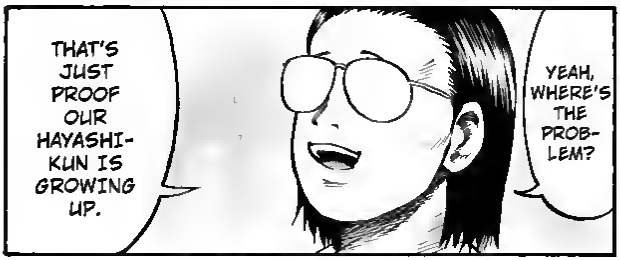
HIP, HIP, HOORAY! HIP, HIP, HOORAY!
CONGRAT-ULATIONS ON GETTING A GIRL-FRIEND!!
WHAT THE HECK ARE YOU IDIOTS DOING?!
CONGRAT-ULATIONS, KOMATSU!!


WHAT ARE WE DOING? WHY, PRAC-TICING IN CASE ONE OF US SUCCESS-FULLY ASKS A GIRL OUT.
いざって時によぉ
JUST IN CASE.
AREN'T YOU GETTING A LITTLE AHEAD OF YOUR-SELVES?!
WHADDA YOU MEAN "JUST IN CASE"?!


HUH...
WHAT'S WRONG WITH THAT?
HUH? HAYASHI AND AMACHI ARE GOIN' OUT?


IT MUST BE HIS 2ND TERM DEBUT!
COME TO THINK OF IT, HAYASHI DID PUT IN A LOT OF WORK ON HIS APPEARANCE LATELY.

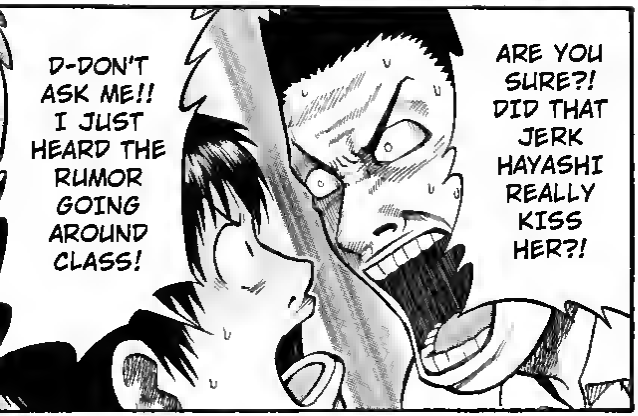
O-OH... WELL...
WHY'S THAT GOT YOU LOOKING SO PALE, AOSHIMASHI?
YOU KNUCKLEHEAD.


THAT'S JUST PROOF OUR HAYASHI-KUN IS GROWING UP.
YEAH, WHERE'S THE PROBLEM?

I GUESS I JUST GOT A LITTLE SPOOKED WHEN I HEARD THE WORD "KISS."
YEAH, YOU'RE RIGHT.

THERE MAY EVEN BE SOME TOSSING IN THE AIR IN ORDER.
AS HIS CLASSMATES, WE SHOULD GIVE HIM OUR BLESSING, RIGHT?
OHH!!
THEY'RE ACTING SO MATURE...

KISS
HUH?

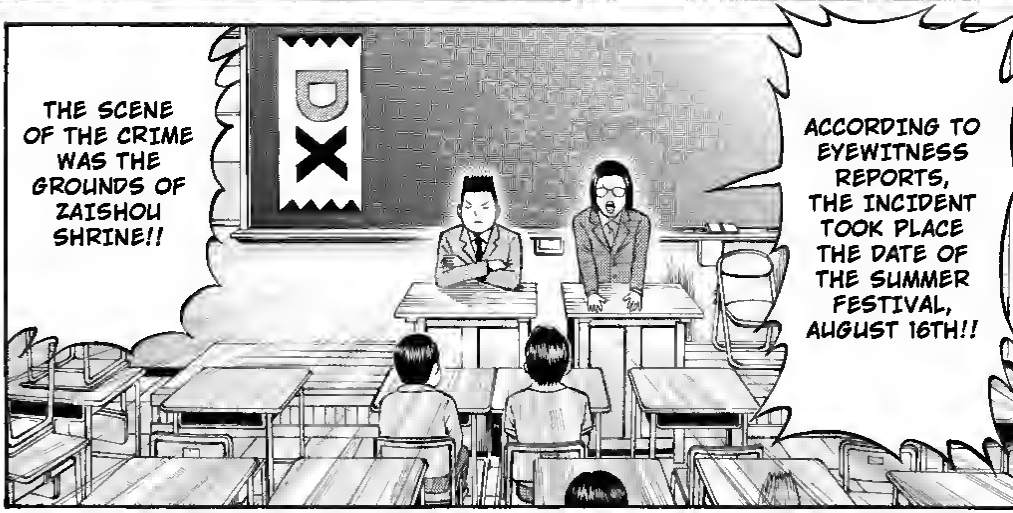

D-DON'T ASK ME!! I JUST HEARD THE RUMOR GOING AROUND CLASS!
ARE YOU SURE?! DID THAT JERK HAYASHI REALLY KISS HER?!

YIKES!! FUJI-Q, WHY ARE YOU STAND-ING AT ATTEN-TION?!
WH-WH... WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "KISS"?!
IT'S SO BIG
IT'S SCARY!!
UP !!

WE'RE GOING TO BRING THIS MATTER THOROUGHLY TO LIGHT!
YOU MORON! GET OUT THERE AND GATHER ALL THE INFOR-MATION YOU CAN !!!!

WHAPP
OUR SUSPECT IS ONE TATSUO HAYASHI, MALE, SEVENTEEN YEARS OLD AT THE TIME OF THE INCIDENT!!

ガチャ
KLUNK
座床ケキス事件捜査本部
*"ZAISHOU MUNICIPAL KISS INVESTIGATION HQ"


THE SCENE OF THE CRIME WAS THE GROUNDS OF ZAISHOU SHRINE!!
ACCORDING TO EYEWITNESS REPORTS, THE INCIDENT TOOK PLACE THE DATE OF THE SUMMER FESTIVAL, AUGUST 16TH!!

YOU'VE GOT WHAT ?!!!
AND WHO THE HECK ARE YOU SUPPOSED TO BE?!
カロ藤武スタイル
TAKESHI KATOU STYLE
ALL RIGHT!! I'VE GOT IT!!
*JAPANESE ACTOR

WHOA... ON HOLY GROUND...
FLAP
FLAP

☆INFO☆

FOR THE SUMMER FESTIVAL, REFER TO "MY WIFE IS WAGATSUMA-SAN" VOL. 2!

☆ON SALE NOW☆

ISN'T THAT WHEN WE WERE BUSY WORKING OUR BUTTS OFF?

THE SUMMER FESTIVAL...?

AND WHILE WE WERE WORKING OUR FINGERS TO THE BONE, HE WAS UP TO ***"HE STOLE SOMETHING QUITE PRECIOUS...YOUR HEART!!"*** -TYPE SHENANIGANS!!

ルパンめぇ～... DANG IT, LUPIN...

GRRR!! THIS IS UNFORGIVABLE!!!!

UNCLE!!

HNNNGH...

THERE WAS FRAUD INVOLVED?

CURSE YOU, HAYASHI... I'LL NAIL YOU FOR FRAUD!!

MAT-2!! HOW LONG ARE YOU GONNA STAY IN MAKE-UP?!

WITH MAYBE A LITTLE "AND HE STOLE YOUR LIPS AS WELL," ACTION ON THE SIDE.

KNB KNB KNB KNB KNB KNB

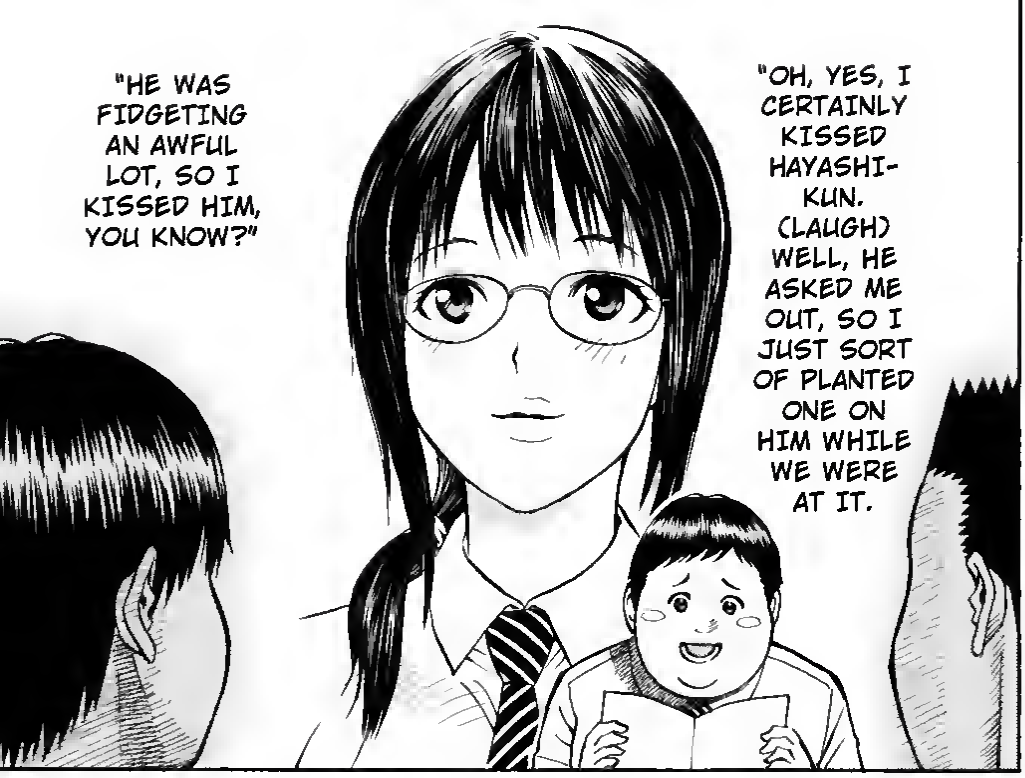
PLUS, YOURS IS CLEARLY NOT KISS, BUT HIS EXCELLENCY DEMON KOGURE*!!

*HEAVY METAL PERFORMER

WHAT ELSE WOULD YOU CALL IT BUT "FRAUD" ?!!!

HE CHANGED HIS WHOLE CHARACTER IN ORDER TO TWIST A WOMAN AROUND HIS FINGER!!

IT WOULD BE UNFORGIVABLE AMONG OUR RANKS AS WELL...
YEAH, NOW IT'S REALLY STARTING TO SEEM UNFORGIVABLE!!
YES, THAT CERTAINLY FALLS UNDER THE CATEGORY OF FRAUD... WE MUST NOW CONSIDER AMACHI-SAN A VICTIM...
K... KONDOU-SENSEI* !!!!
DX CORPS OFFICE RULES:
1: NO CHANGE OF CHARACTER IS PERMITTED.
2: IF RULE 1 IS BROKEN, THE OFFENDER SHALL BE SENTENCED TO DEATH BY HARAKIRI.
ANY MEMBER OF THE DX CORPS FOUND ATTEMPTING A 2ND TERM DEBUT WILL BE SENTENCED TO DEATH BY HARAKIRI!!
HARAKIRI?!
*ISAMI KONDO, EDO PERIOD SWORDSMAN AND OFFICIAL
YOU WENT RIGHT TO THE SOURCE ?!!!
HUH ?!!!
WHEN DID HE LEAVE ?!!
THUNK
I JUST INTERVIEWED THE VICTIM, MS. AMACHI!
OF COURSE NOT!!
AND DON'T LET ME CATCH YOU TRYING IT IN THE 3RD TERM EITHER!
AMACHI-SAN PROBABLY TALKED TO HIM THE SAME WAY SHE MIGHT TALK TO A PET...
HE DIDN'T EVEN CONSIDER THE VICTIM'S FEELINGS?
I'M AMAZED HE HAD THE COJONES TO TALK TO HER ABOUT THIS...
SOOO... HERE'S WHAT AMACHI-SAN HAD TO SAY.


"HE WAS FIDGETING AN AWFUL LOT, SO I KISSED HIM, YOU KNOW?"
"OH, YES, I CERTAINLY KISSED HAYASHI-KUN. (LAUGH) WELL, HE ASKED ME OUT, SO I JUST SORT OF PLANTED ONE ON HIM WHILE WE WERE AT IT.

I GUESS THERE'S SOME THINGS YOU'RE BETTER OFF NOT KNOW-ING, HUH?
...I THINK WE WERE WRONG HERE, GUYS...
...
I'M, UH... SORRY.

IS THAT SO...
OH...
HUH... SO *SHE* KISSED *HIM*...

RAISE YOUR PALM~♪
TO THE SUN~♪

THEN... MEETING ADJOURN-ED...
...

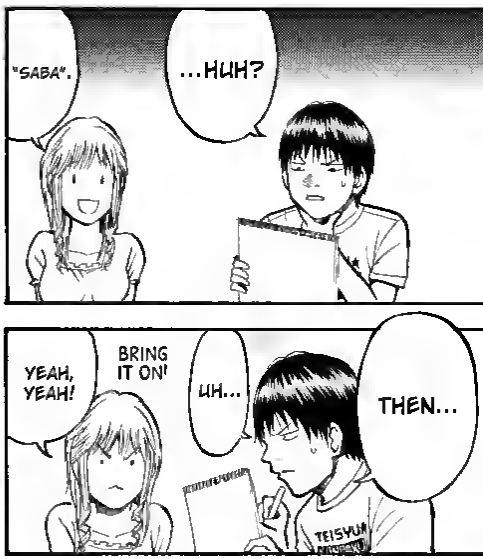
TOGETHER TIGHT!
AND SQUEEZE THEM...
WHEN YOU SPREAD YOUR FINGERS...
IT HAS THE SAME SOFTNESS AS HUMAN LIPS. (RANDOM TRIVIA)
OKAY! THIS BULGE RIGHT HERE.
ブチュ SMOOCH
チラ GLANCE
チラ GLANCE
I WONDER IF WAGATSUMA-SAN'S LIPS ARE LIKE THIS AS WELL...
MORE LIKE PUCCHIN PUDDING* OR ALMOND JELLY...
THAT DOESN'T SEEM QUITE RIGHT...I GET THE FEELING REAL LIPS ARE SOFTER...
*BRAND OF PUDDING
プチュ
プチュ
HMM...

OH...?
YEAH, JUST LIKE THAT.
SO, THIS IS A TIME SLIP, HUH?
WE LOVE SHORT SHORTS!!
THAT SCARED ME...
THUMP
THUMP
IT'S REALLY HER?!!
WHOA?!!!
T.S. ACTIVE
DOOT-DOOT-DE-DOO
CLANG
NOW WITH AN ADDED MATURE CHARM...
HNGH... SHE'S STILL SO CUTE...
THAT'S MY WIFE FOR YOU!!

DO I WANNA TRY THIS NOW...?
A KISS!!
SUDDEN START OF THE REVERSE KISS ENDURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP
SHE'S MY WIFE! THERE'S NO PROBLEM!!
...I THINK.
DUNNU
DUNNU
DUNNU
DUNNU
NOEEEES
TEISYU
I CAN'T DO IT!!
I'VE GOT ABSOLUTELY NO IDEA HOW TO TIME IT!!
I WISH THERE WAS A REFEREE FOR TIMES LIKE THESE...
ON YOUR MARK! GET SET!
TO SAY THINGS LIKE THIS!!
TEISYU

I KNOW!!
IF YOU DON'T HURRY, THE TIME SLIP'S GONNA END...
HURRY UP, MAN!! THERE'S GOT TO BE A BETTER WAY!
YOU'RE TALKING LIKE A CAVEMAN, HONEY.
YEAH!! QUIZ! ME QUIZ!!
HUH? WHAT? YOU WANT TO HAVE A QUIZ?
?!
L... LET'S HAVE A QUIZ!
TEISYU KANPAK
SURE... THAT'S FINE, I GUESS.
A KANJI QUIZ!!
...CASUALLY WORK UP A ROMANTIC MOOD...THEN KISS HER!!
I'LL MAKE WAGATSUMA-SAN SAY THE WORD "KISS"...

*"MACKEREL"



**"SARDINE"

***"WHITING"

CLENCH
?
LEARN THEM NORMALLY.
I SHOULD'VE ASKED MY PARENTS TO TAKE ME OUT FOR SUSHI MORE OFTEN!!
DANG IT! I FORGOT HOW BAD I AM AT KANJI!
DUH-DUH-DUH-DUH-DUH-DUH-DUN!!♪
DUH-DUH-DUH-DUN! DUH-DUH-DUH-DUN!
"LOVE GUN" by KISS
HUH?! WHAT ABOUT THE KANJI ?!!!
TRY TO GUESS THE BAND NAME!!
SONG INTRO QUIZ!!
YEAH!! THAT'S THE ONE!!
OH! DON'T TELL ME...
YOU KNOW, THAT FOREIGN ROCK BAND WITH THE CRAZY MAKEUP...
HMM...
WHAT IS THIS WOMAN?
I'LL BITE LIVE BATS AND DOVES!!
OZZY OSBOURNE?

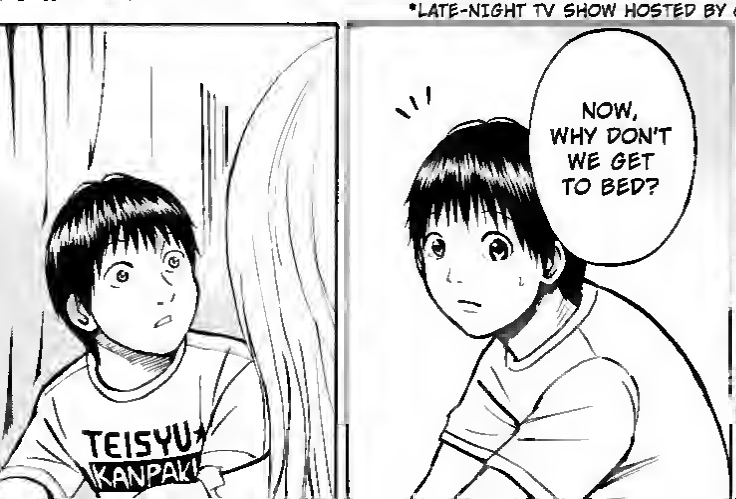
HUH? WAS IT MARILYN MANSON?
NO, NO!
THEN, MAYBE KLAUS NOMI?
NOT HIM EITHER !!
OH! WAS IT ROB ZOMBIE?!
...
SHE'S ODDLY KNOWL-EDGE-ABLE!!

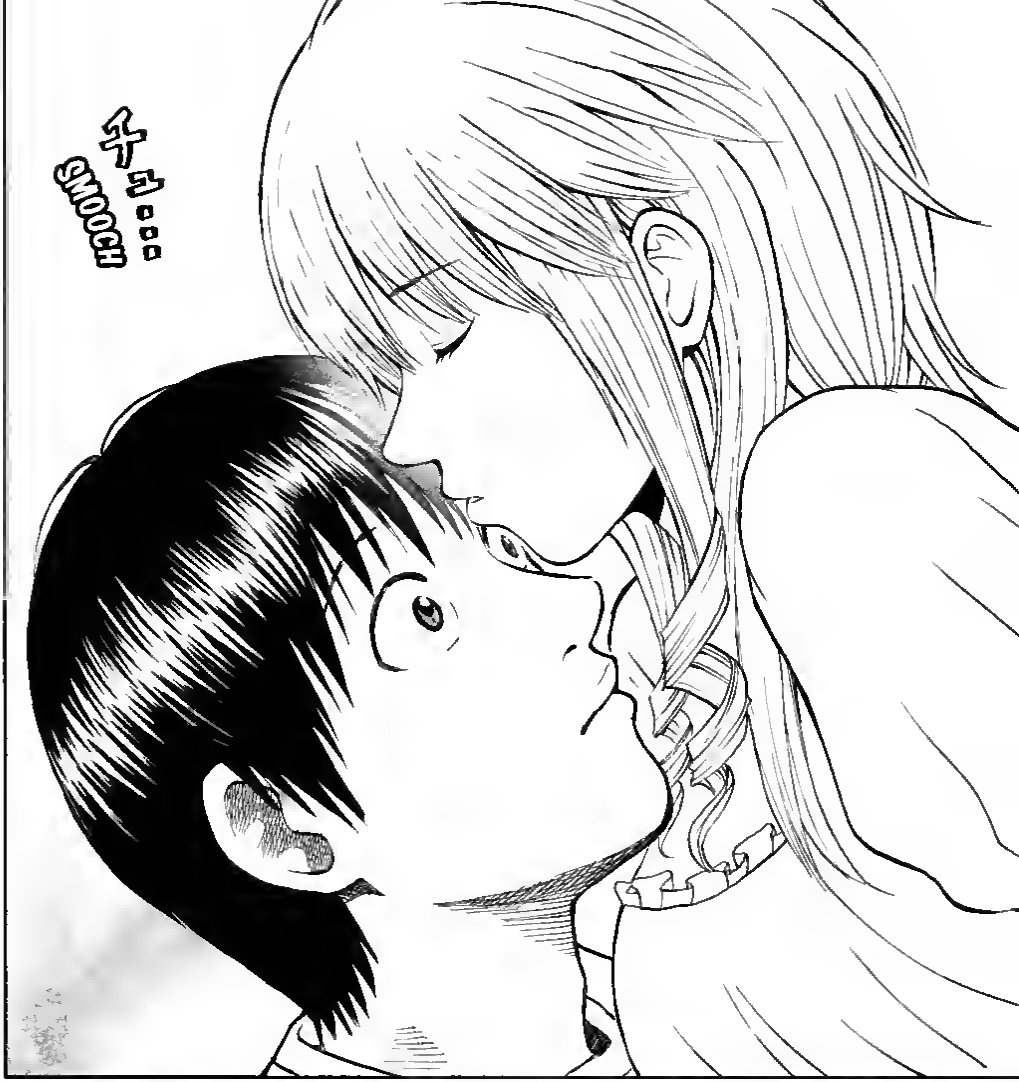
N-NO, NOT THAT!
?!
GRAB
THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT!

NO... DON'T TELL ME...
OH? OH?
TEISYU★ KANPAKU

?!

*LATE-NIGHT TV SHOW HOSTED BY COMEDIAN KAZUYOSHI MORITA

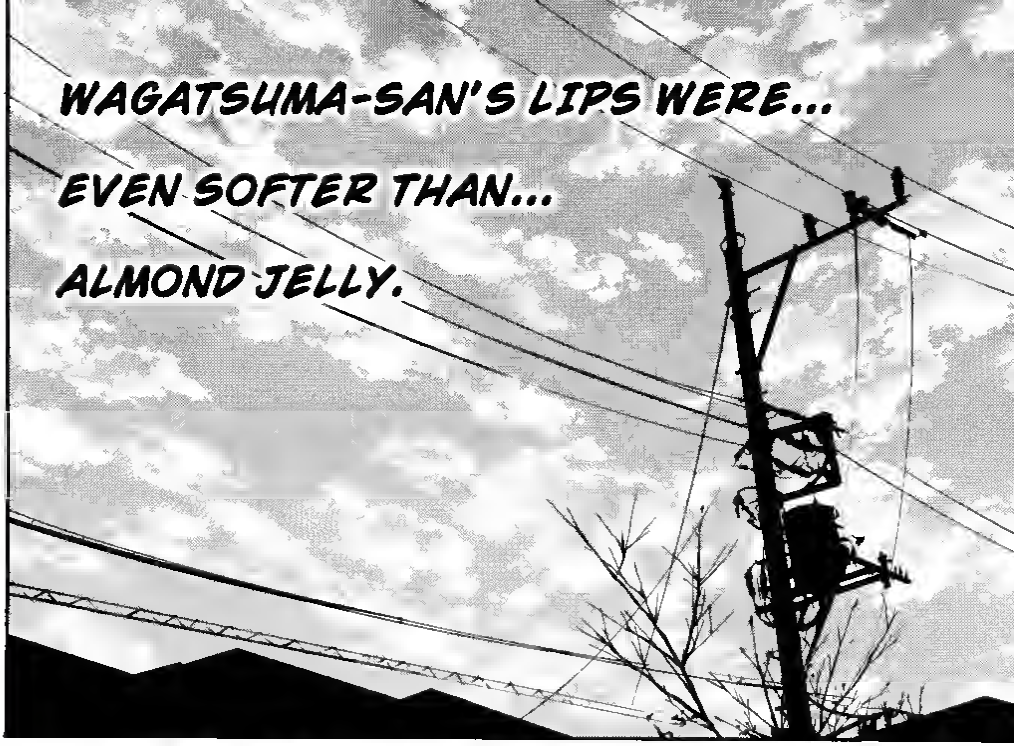

TEISYU KANPAI!
NOW, WHY DON'T WE GET TO BED?
OH, IT'S NOTH-ING...
WHAT'S WRONG?
THAT ASIDE, CONGRATS, TAMO-SAN!
DID THEY REALLY HAVE TO ANNOUNCE THAT POINT-LESS NEWS NOW?!!!

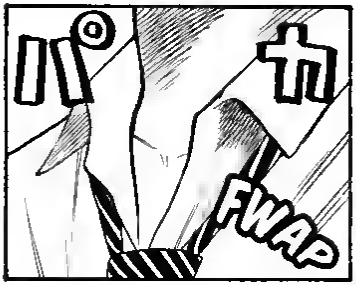

チュ…
SMOOCH

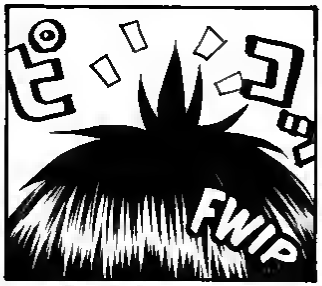
TOUCH-
ED MY
FORE-
HEAD...
WHAT
THE?
JUST
NOW...
SOME-
THING
SOFT...

HUH?
HUH?

HEH HEH.
GOOD NIGHT, HONEY.
...Y...
...
IT WASN'T...
LIP TO LIP, BUT...
TIME SLIP OVER
YEAH.


WAGATSUMA-SAN'S LIPS WERE...
EVEN SOFTER THAN...
ALMOND JELLY.

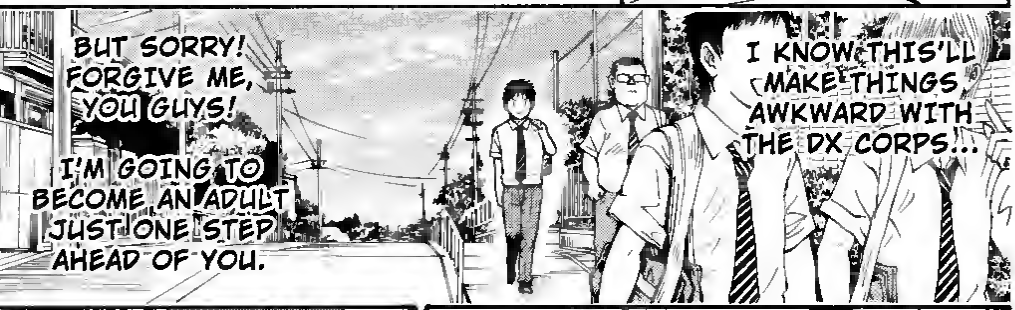

パ
FWAP

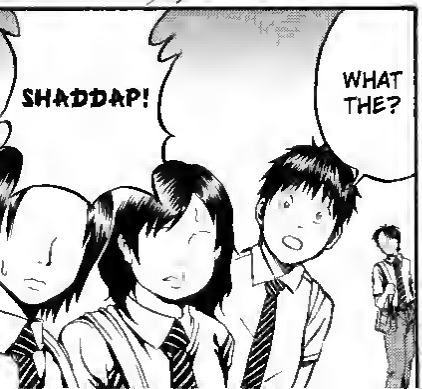

ピ
FWIP

I'M GONNA TRY JUST A SMALL IMAGE CHANGE.
HEH HEH HEH...

I'LL DO WHATEVER IT TAKES, BE IT A MAKEOVER OR A 2ND TERM DEBUT!
I MADE A DECISION! IN ORDER TO REACH MY FUTURE WITH WAGATSUMA-SAN AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE...
TEISYU★

THIS IS ALL FOR THE SAKE OF THE LOVE BETWEEN ME AND WAGA-TSUMA-SAN!!
WELL, I PUT ON A STRONG FACE IN FRONT OF THE DX CORPS YESTER-DAY, BUT...


BUT SORRY! FORGIVE ME, YOU GUYS!
I'M GOING TO BECOME AN ADULT JUST ONE STEP AHEAD OF YOU.
I KNOW THIS'LL MAKE THINGS AWKWARD WITH THE DX CORPS...

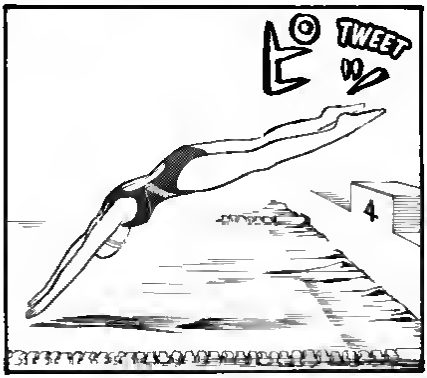

SHADDAP!
WHAT THE?

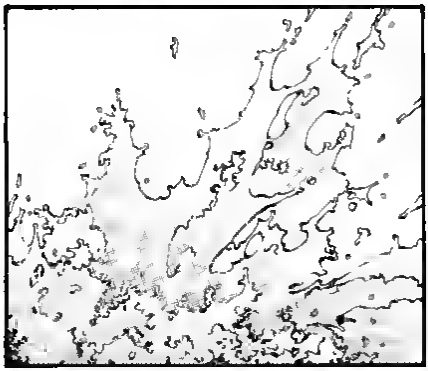
ZI ZI
WAH! WAH!
HMM?

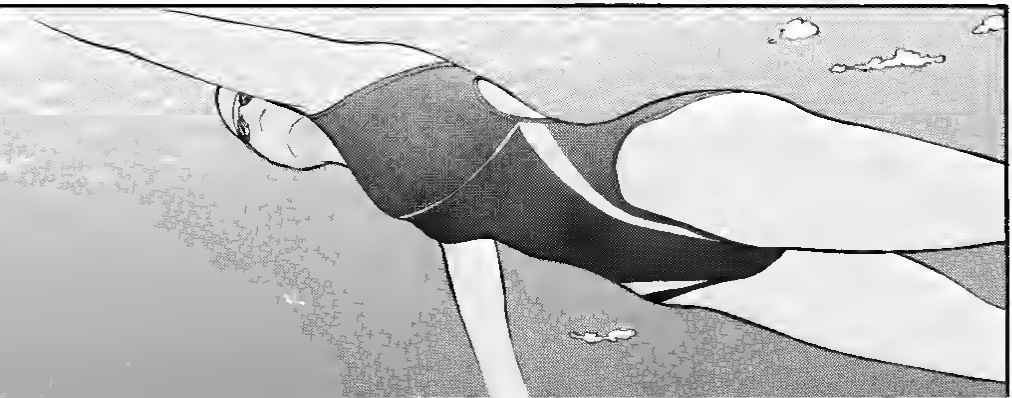
NO, YOU IDIOT! I WAS INFLUENC-ED BY PICASSO !!!!
AREN'T YOU KIND OF PUSHING IT, DUDE?! WHAT ARE YOU, ONE OF TAROU OKAMOTO'S* SCULPTURES?!
PLEASE, IT'S NOT LIKE YOU DON'T OWE US A HARA-KIRI, TOO!
WHY ARE YOU JERKS DRESSED LIKE THAT ?!!!
どぉーん
BOOM
...

*JAPANESE ARTIST FAMOUS FOR HIS ABSTRACT PAINTINGS AND SCULPTURES

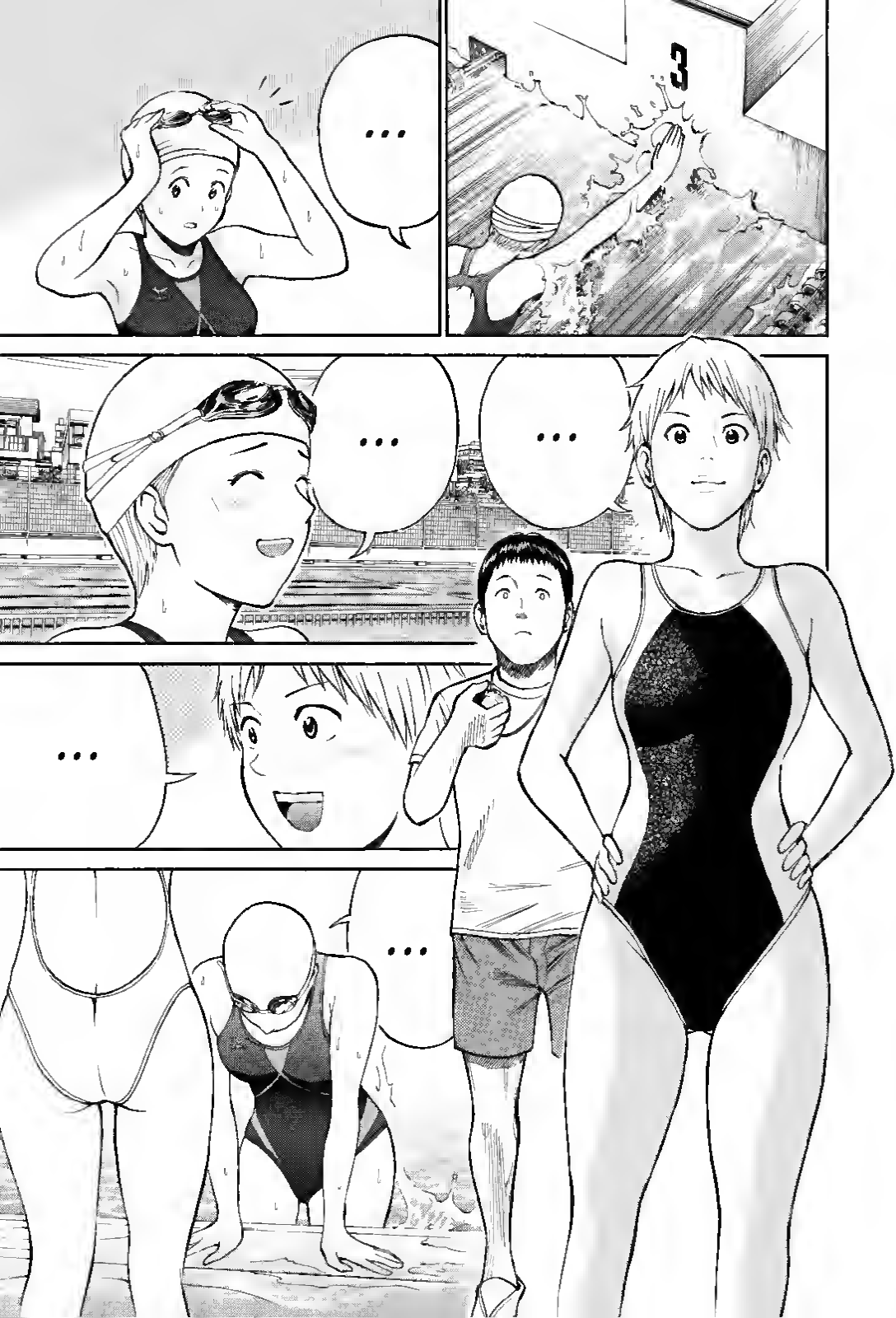
PART 5
Won't Get Pool Again





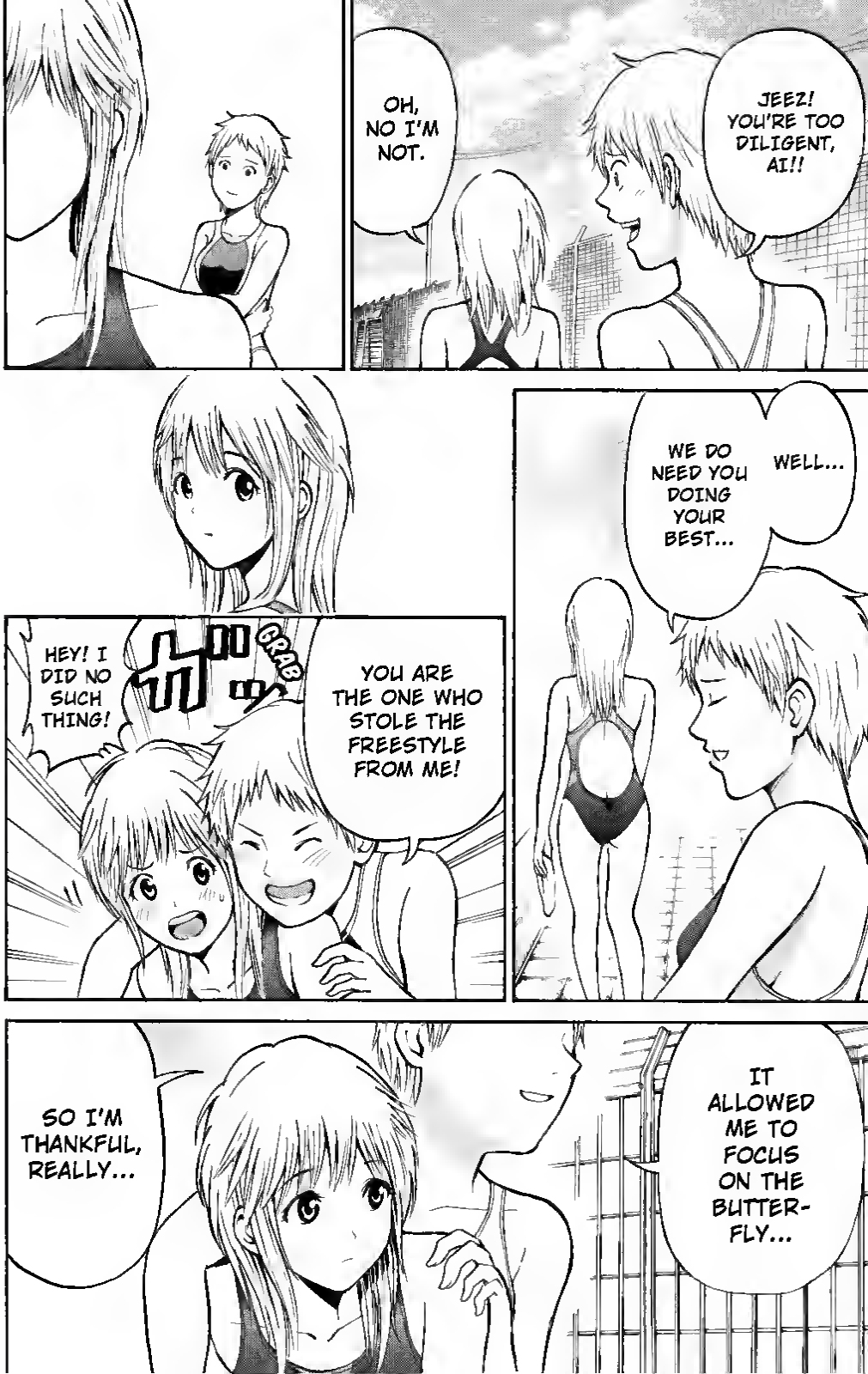


SPLASH

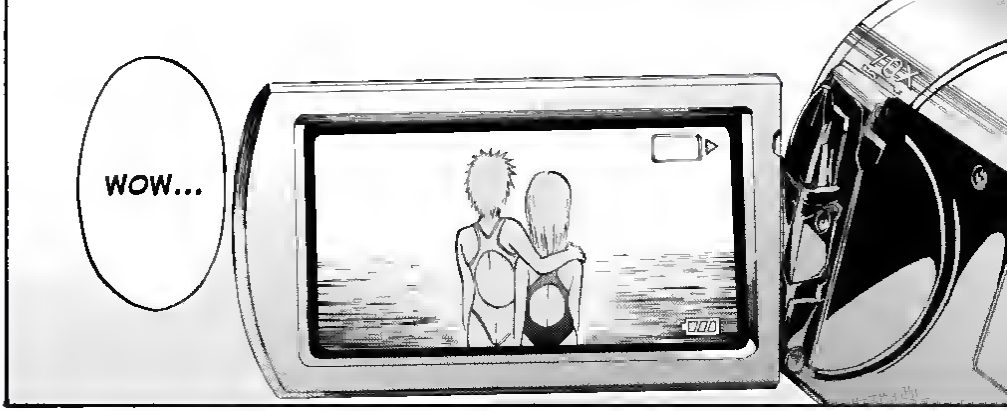

…
3
…
…
…
…

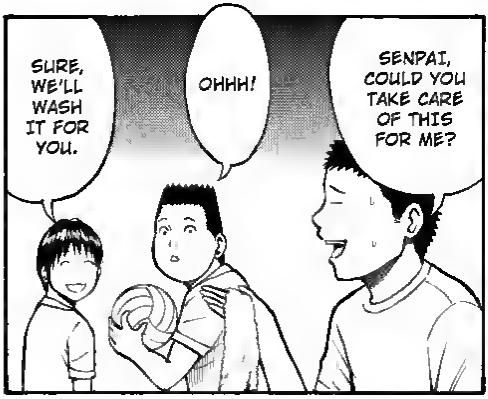
...
...
HEY...
IT'S KIND OF HARD TO TELL FROM THIS FAR AWAY...
WHADDA YOU THINK THEY'RE TALKING ABOUT?
OBSERVING FROM THE TREETOPS

SO IT'S BUSI-NESS?
THIS ISN'T A GAME, MORON.
I-ITOU?! YOU CAN READ LIPS?!
"THANKS, YOUKO. I MUST BE HAVING A GOOD DAY."
"WOW, AI. YOU SHAVED TWO MORE SECONDS OFF YOUR TIME."
SHE'S SAYING THAT TOO?
HUH...
I'M A LITTLE WORRIED. IT LOOKS LIKE AI'S OVER-WORKING HERSELF.
NO ONE ASKED FOR YOUR OPINION!!
AND DON'T CALL HER "AI"!!
NO...THAT WAS MY ASSESS-MENT.
I KNOW! I KNOW!
RESTING PROPERLY IS A PART OF TRAIN-ING TOO, YOU KNOW!
BUT HE WAS SUR-PRIS-INGLY ON THE MARK.

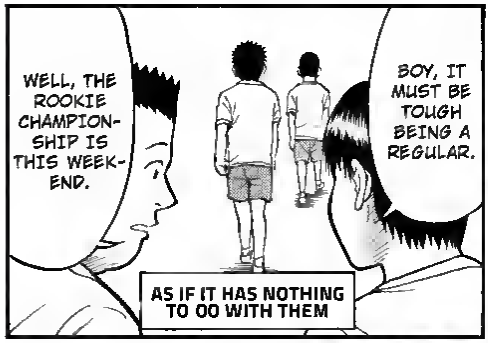

OH, NO I'M NOT.
JEEZ! YOU'RE TOO DILIGENT, AI!!
WELL...
WE DO NEED YOU DOING YOUR BEST...
GRAB
HEY! I DID NO SUCH THING!
YOU ARE THE ONE WHO STOLE THE FREESTYLE FROM ME!
SO I'M THANKFUL, REALLY...
IT ALLOWED ME TO FOCUS ON THE BUTTER-FLY...

BUT IT'S STILL HARD TO BELIEVE THERE'S SOMEONE FASTER THAN ME IN FREESTYLE.
YOUKO.
YEAH?
YEAH.
I'LL DO MY BEST.


WOW...


SENPAI, COULD YOU TAKE CARE OF THIS FOR ME?
OHHH!
SURE, WE'LL WASH IT FOR YOU.

WHAT A BEAUTIFUL SCENE.
THAT'S MY WIFE FOR YOU.
MAN, THAT REALLY GETS THE OLD FIRE GOIN', YOU KNOW?

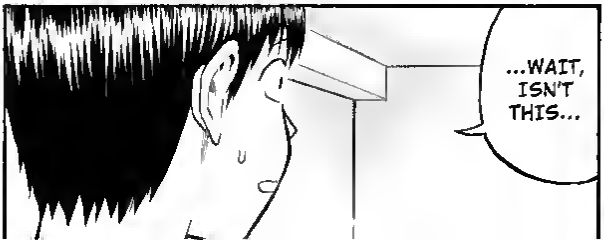

BOY, IT MUST BE TOUGH BEING A REGULAR.
WELL, THE ROOKIE CHAMPION-SHIP IS THIS WEEK-END.
AS IF IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH THEM

THE ROOKIE CHAMPION-SHIP, EH?
YES, THIS WEEKEND WILL BE MAKE-OR-BREAK TIME FOR ME AS WELL...

G - GOOO-FOR-NOTHING
I - INTELLI-GENCE
A - AGENCY
THE NETWORK I MAINTAIN WITH OTHER SCHOOLS, "DIA"...
HAS SECURED SOME MAJOR INFORMATION
I MEAN THE SWIM TEAM.
WHO'S TALKING ABOUT VOLLEYBALL?
HUH? I DON'T REALLY SEE WHAT IT HAS TO DO WITH US BENCHWARMERS...
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
THE SWIM TEAM?
AND SHE'S GOING TO COMPETE IN THE ROOKIE CHAMPIONSHIP.
ONE OF THE 2ND-YEAR MEMBERS OF THE NEIGHBORING SCHOOL'S SWIM TEAM HAS THESE HUGE, MELON-CUP BOOBS...
SO IT COMES DOWN TO VOYEURISM AGAIN, HUH?!
I WANT TO PERSONALLY CAPTURE THAT ANGEL'S FORM IN MY VIEWFINDER!!
...AND?

カッ
FWAP
THIS IS THE CHAMP-IONSHIP MATCH!
WE MAY ONLY BE BENCH-WARMERS, BUT WE STILL HAVE TO BE IN THE ARENA.
HMM...
うーん...
WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO?!
BUT WE'VE GOT A GAME THAT DAY!

*RYOUMA SAKAMOTO: HISTORICAL FIGURE FROM JAPAN'S BAKUMATSU PERIOD



HMM?
ALBUM
CALL-ING OUT THE TIME SLIP
A FRIGGIN' TIME SLIP?!
SWAP
ROLLING STONE
I WONDER IF IT'S... WAGATSUMA-SAN'S.
HUH...A PHOTO ALBUM, EH?
AN AI WAGA-TSUMA PHOTO COLLEC-TION?!
AI WAGATSUMA
PUBLISHED AT LAST: AI WAGASTUMA (17½)
IF IT'S WAGA-TSUMA-SAN'S PHOTO ALBUM, THAT MAKES IT...IN OTHER WORDS...
ALBUM

BUT...
EVEN IF SHE IS MY WIFE, IS IT REALLY ALL RIGHT TO LOOK AT SOME-ONE'S PHOTO ALBUM WITHOUT PERMISSION?
ALBUM
AS PRESIDENT OF THE AI WAGATSUMA FAN CLUB, I CANNOT TURN A BLIND EYE TO THIS!!
A♡I
我妻 愛衣
AI
I CAN SAMPLE THE SCENT...
WELL, AT THE VERY LEAST...
ウーム... HMM...
OH MY?
LOOKS LIKE I JUST STRUCK GOLD!!
ヒラリ
FLUTTER
WHAT'S THIS?
OH?

SHE IS SO CUTE!
HNGH!
HER EXPRES-SION...
WHAT THE?
OR MELAN-CHOLY...
LIKE A SLIGHT LONELI-NESS...
SHE'S SMILING, BUT...THERE'S SOMETHING ELSE IN THERE...
YEAH...
OH, THAT?
I'VE NEVER SEEN HER LOOK LIKE THIS BEFORE...
I WONDER WHAT COULD HAVE HAPPENED...

WHOA?! I'M SORRY !!!!
THAT WAS TAKEN AT THE ROOKIE CHAMPION-SHIP BACK IN HIGH SCHOOL.
THIS PICTURE WAS TAKEN AFTER THE MATCH THIS WEEKEND...
THE ROOKIE CHAMPION-SHIP, HUH? GUESS THAT MEANS...
YEP!
AI-SAN, YOU COMPETED IN THE FREESTYLE RACE, DIDN'T YOU?
WAGA...
DID YOU WIN? DID YOU TAKE THE CHAMP-IONSHIP?!
HOW'D YOU DO?!

WELL... ABOUT THAT...
OH...
I KIND OF...
LOST.
"LAST PLACE"?
"L...
...HUH?
I CAME IN A HUMIL-IATING LAST PLACE.
YOU'VE GOTTA BE KIDDING! YOU PRAC-TICED SO HARD!!
THERE'S NO WAY YOU COULD HAVE LOST...
ROLLING

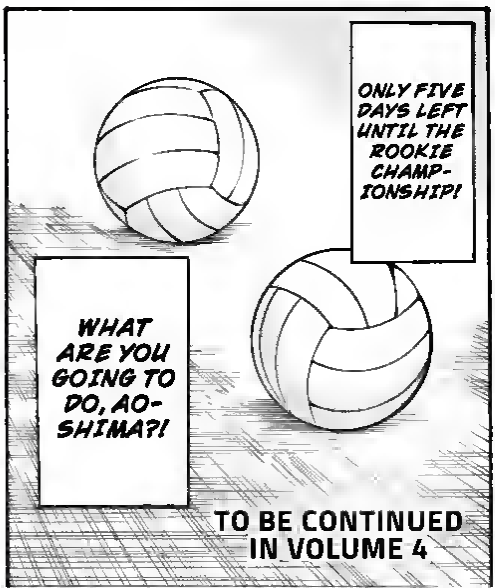
NO, NO! I SIMPLY HEARD RUMORS TO THAT EFFECT!!
EEK!
YOU WERE WATCHING?
BACK THEN?
AO-SHIMA-KUN?
SO, SO HARD!!
NOT AFTER YOU WORK-ED...
LIKE, I WAS IN THE LEAD.
I GOT OFF TO A REALLY GOOD START...
MY SHOULDER GAVE OUT.
JUST BEFORE THE 50 METER MARK...
THEN... WHAT HAPPEN-ED?
WELL...

AND I KNOW WHAT CAUSED IT.
OH, I'M PERFECTLY FINE NOW.
ARE YOU OKAY?! ARE YOU OKAY?!!
OH NO!
YOU WERE INJURED ?!!!
YOU CAN JUST FEEL YOURSELF LOSING SPEED.
WHEN YOU'RE SWIMMING, WELL...
I PRACTICED TOO MUCH.
I OVERWORKED MYSELF, PLAIN AND SIMPLE.
WELL, THERE WAS A LITTLE PAIN, BUT...
D-DID IT HURT?
REALLY... REALLY FRUSTRATING.
NOW THAT WAS FRUSTRATING...

OH!!
SO THAT'S WHY SHE WAS MAKING THAT FACE...
BUT...
THERE WASN'T MUCH I COULD DO BACK THEN TO AVOID IT...
BUT I GUESS IT'D BE KIND OF WEIRD TO SAY IT WAS "FOR THE BEST," HUH?
"BEST"?
ROLLING STONE
...???
THAT WAS NOT FOR THE BEST!!
ピシッ
flinch
WASN'T IT FRUS-TRATING ?!!!!
DIDN'T YOU WANT TO WIN, SWEETIE?!
SO WORK-ED UP HE'S TALKING LIKE A DRAG-QUEEN

I WATCHED YOU THE WHOLE TIME.
I KNOW HOW HARD YOU WORKED, WAGATSUMA-SAN.
IT'S ALREADY IN THE PAST.
BUT...
B... BUT...
SO, UM...
S-
YEAH...
...
I'LL DO WHATEVER I CAN TO HELP, SO DON'T GIVE UP JUST YET!!
I MUST SAY THIS IN NO UNCERTAIN TERMS!!!!
AS HER HUSBAND, AND AS A TIME SLIPPER...

HUH?!!!
HUH?
HUH?
TIME SLIP OVER
HOW FAR DID WE GET IN THIS CONVER-SATION?
HUH?! UNDER-STAND WHAT?!
SO YOU UNDER-STAND, DO YOU?
OHHH... AOSHIMA-KUN!


ONLY FIVE DAYS LEFT UNTIL THE ROOKIE CHAMP-IONSHIP!
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO, AO-SHIMA?!
TO BE CONTINUED IN VOLUME 4

COME TO THE FRIGGIN' VOLLEY-BALL GAME!
LET US GO TO-GETHER TO EDO AND FILM THESE GIRLS!
I AM TRULY GLAD!